It's Easy To Play Soul Classics

Easy to read, simplified arrangements of sixteen soul hits by
Ray Charles, Nina Simone, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, Ben E. King and more!
Piano/vocal with guitar chord symbols.

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Stand By Me Ben E. King 42

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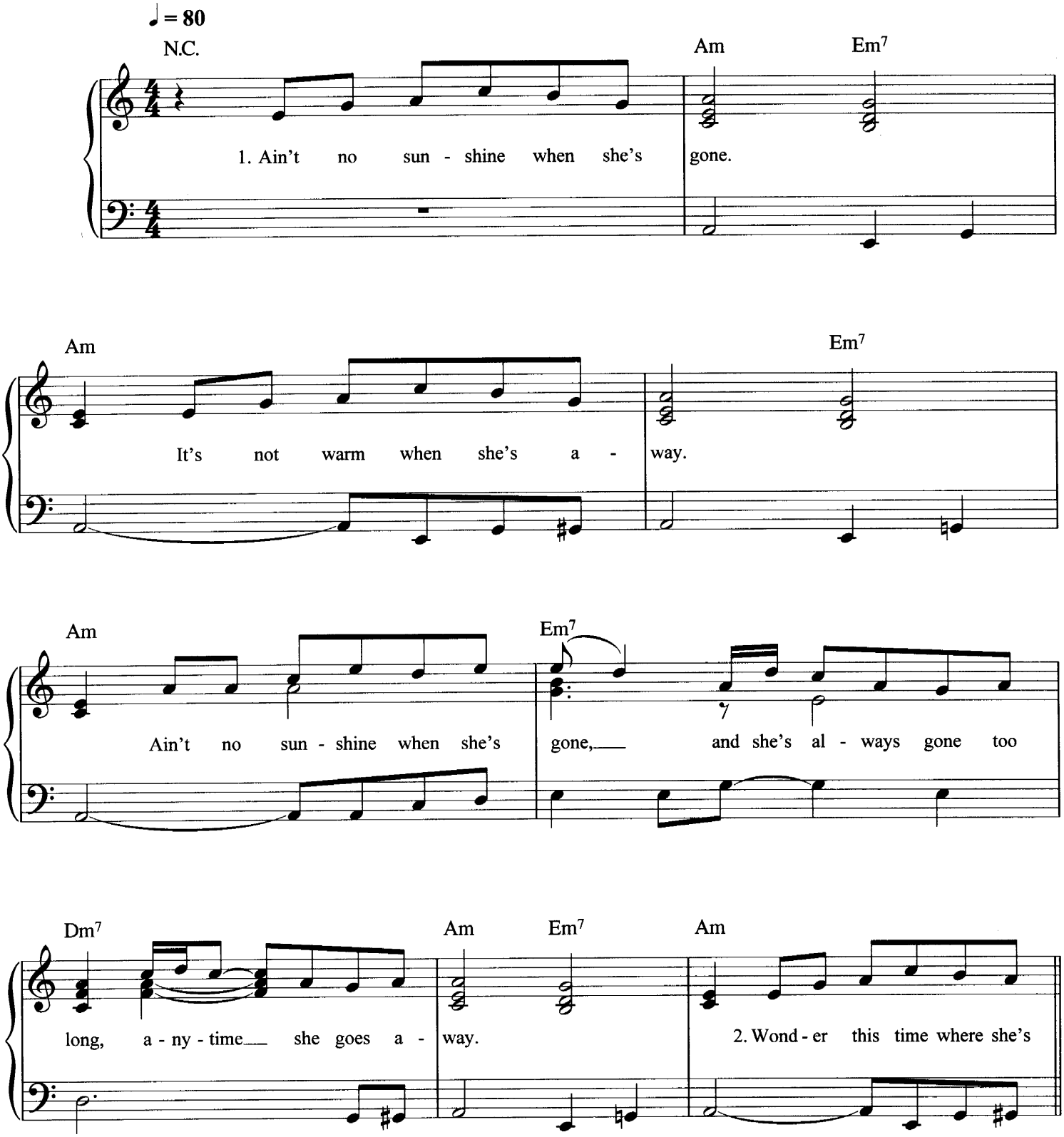
Ain't No Sunshine

Words & Music by Bill Withers

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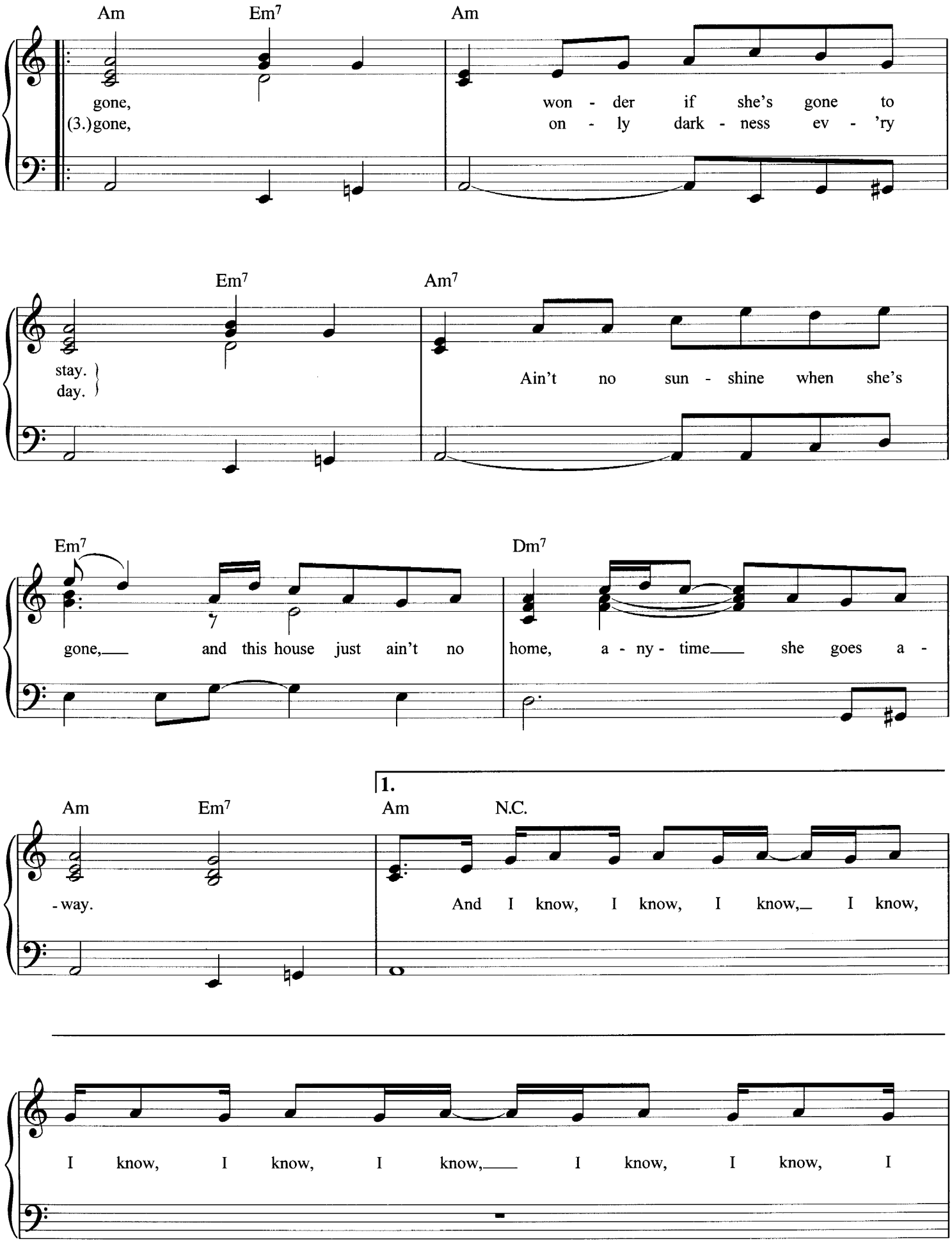
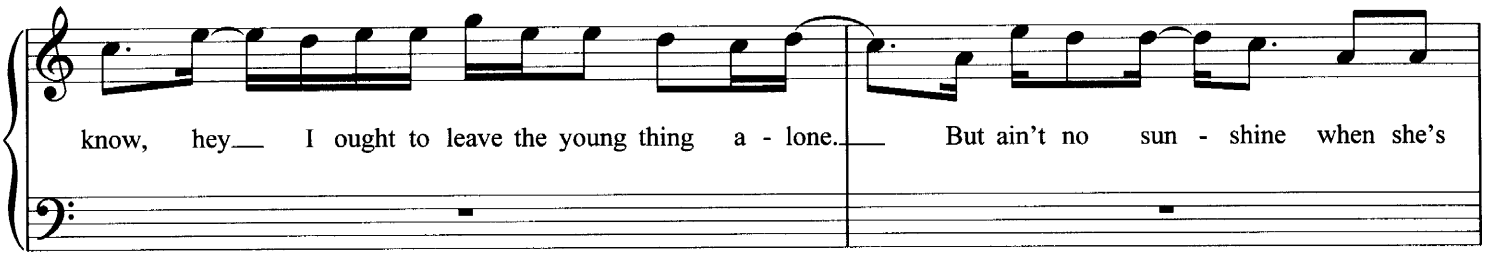
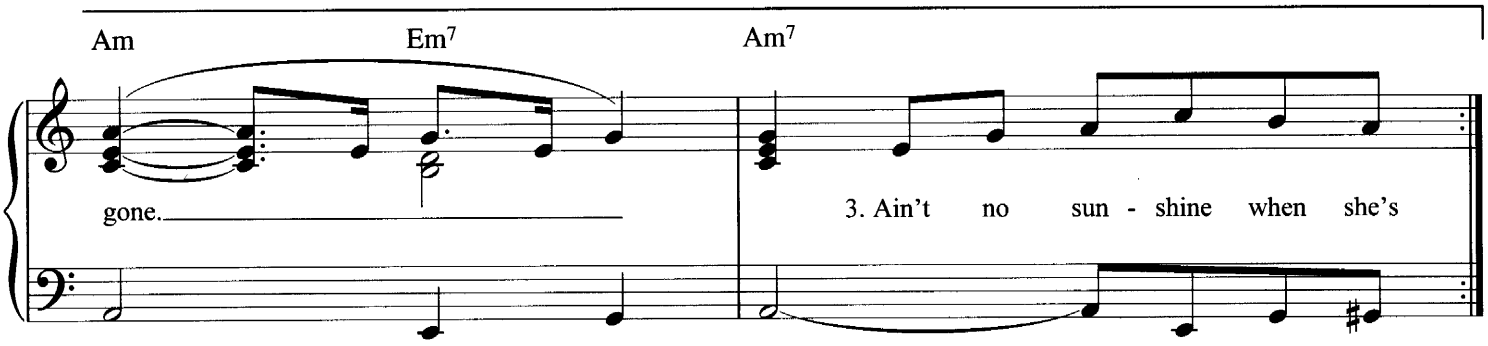
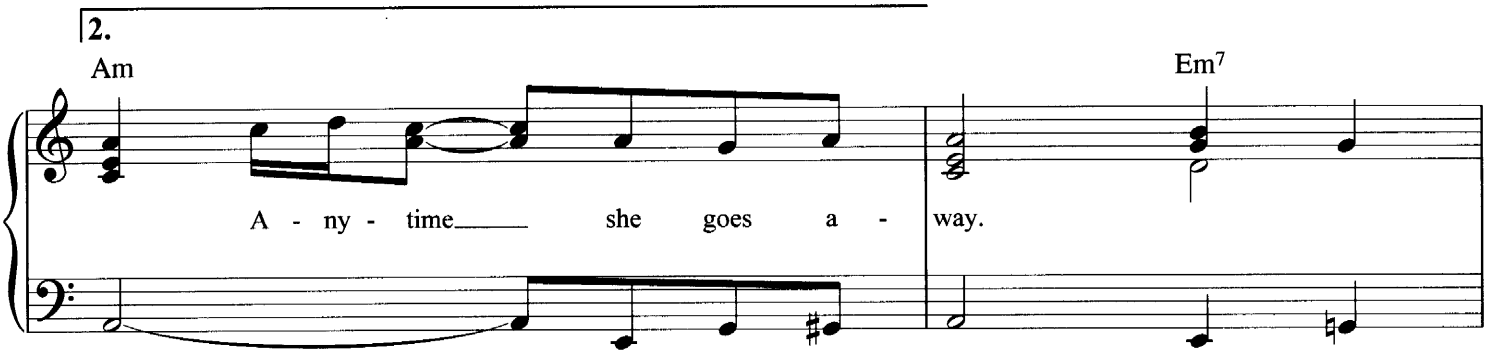
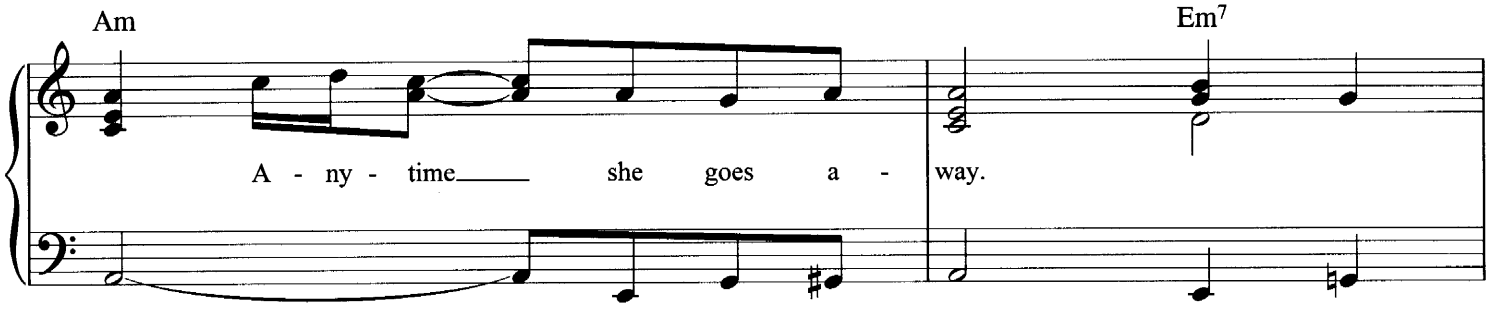
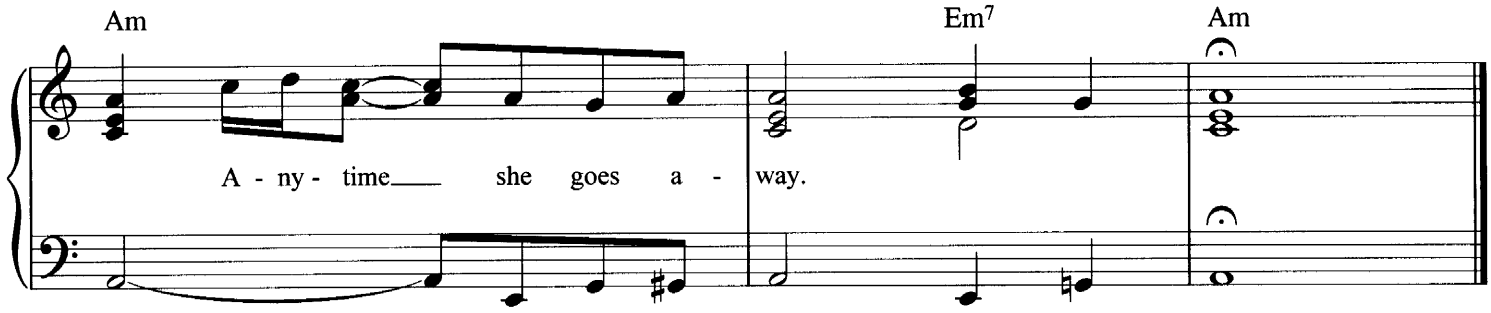

Am
Em7
Am
gone,
(3.)gone,
won - der if she's gone to
on - ly dark - ness ev - 'ry
Em7
Am7
stay.
day.
Ain't no sun - shine when she's
Em7
Dm7
gone,___ and this house just ain't no
home, a - ny - time___ she goes a -
1.
Am
Em7
Am
N.C.
- way.
And I know, I know, I know,_ I know,
I know, I know, I know,___ I know, I know, I


know, hey I ought to leave the young thing a - lone. But ain't no sun - shine when she's

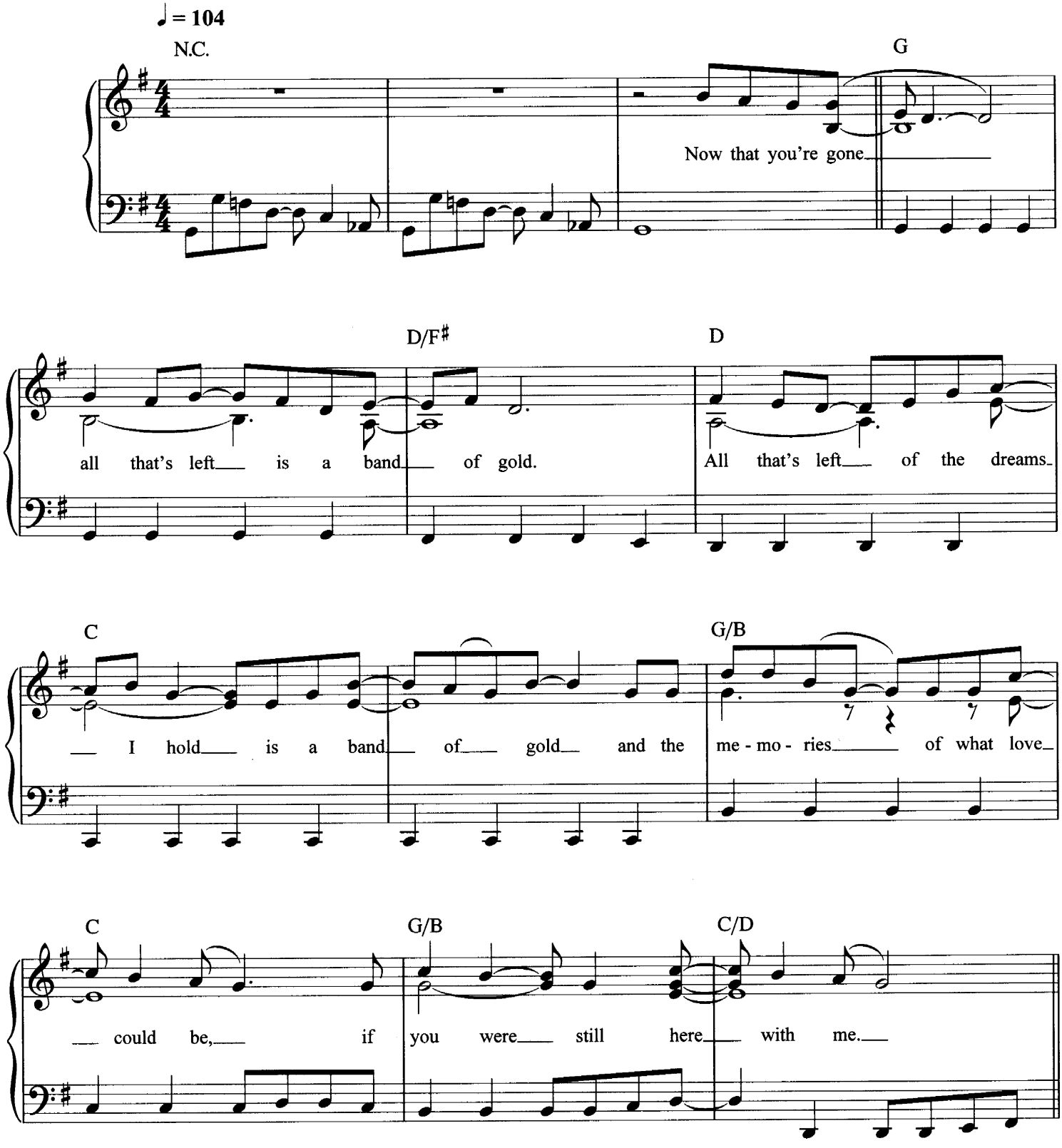

Am
Em7
Am7
gone.
3. Ain't no sun - shine when she's


2.
Am
Em7
A - ny - time she goes a -
way.


Am
Em7
A - ny - time she goes a -
way.


Am
Em7
Am
A - ny - time she goes a -
way.

Band Of Gold

Words & Music by Ronald Dunbar & Edith Wayne

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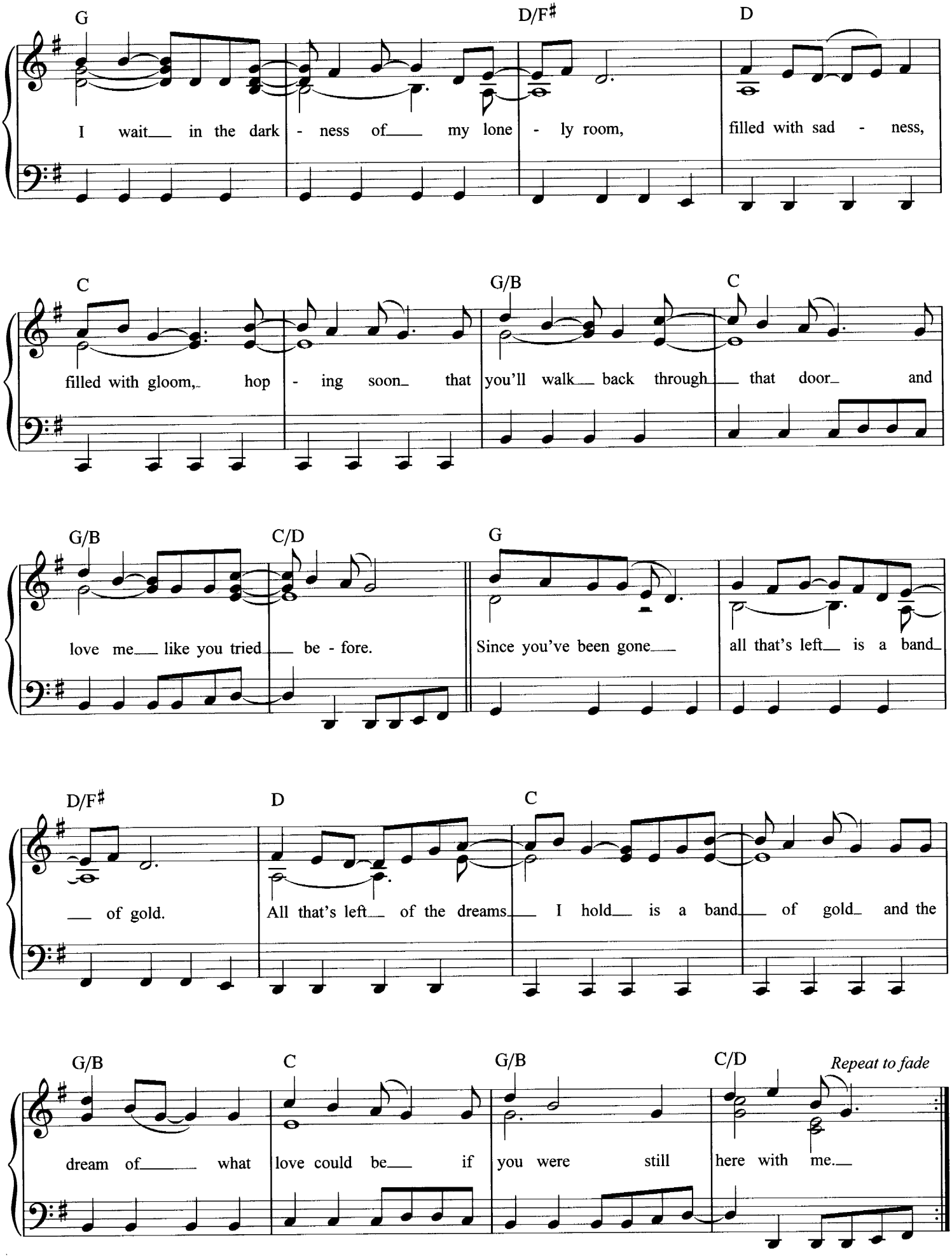
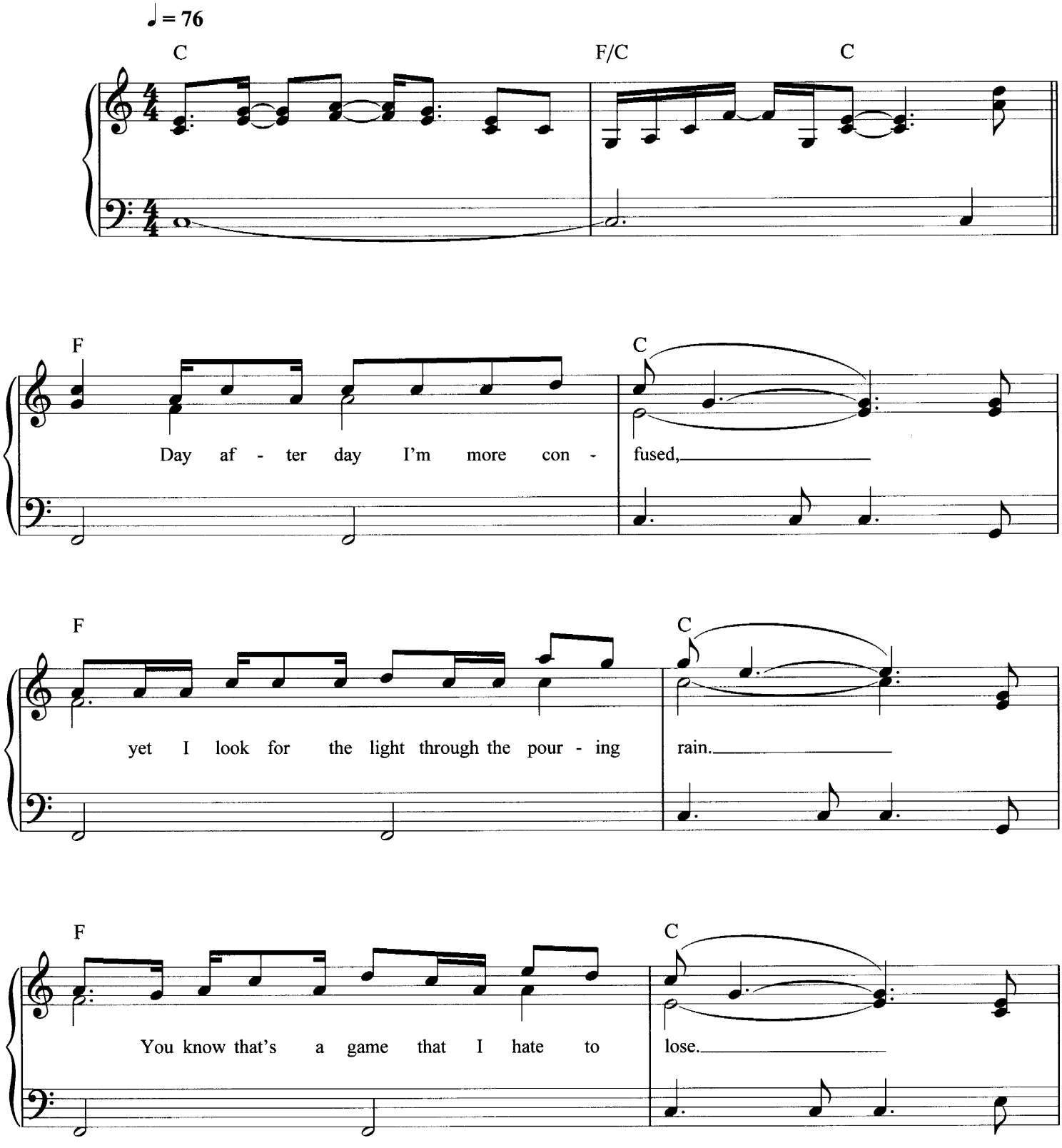

G
D/F♯
D
I wait in the dark - ness of my lone - ly room,
filled with sad - ness,
C
G/B
C
filled with gloom, hop - ing soon that you'll walk back through that door and
G/B
C/D
G
love me like you tried be - fore.
Since you've been gone
all that's left is a band
D/F♯
D
C
of gold.
All that's left of the dreams I hold is a band of gold and the
G/B
C
G/B
C/D
Repeat to fade
dream of what love could be if you were still here with me.

Drift Away

Words & Music by Mentor Williams

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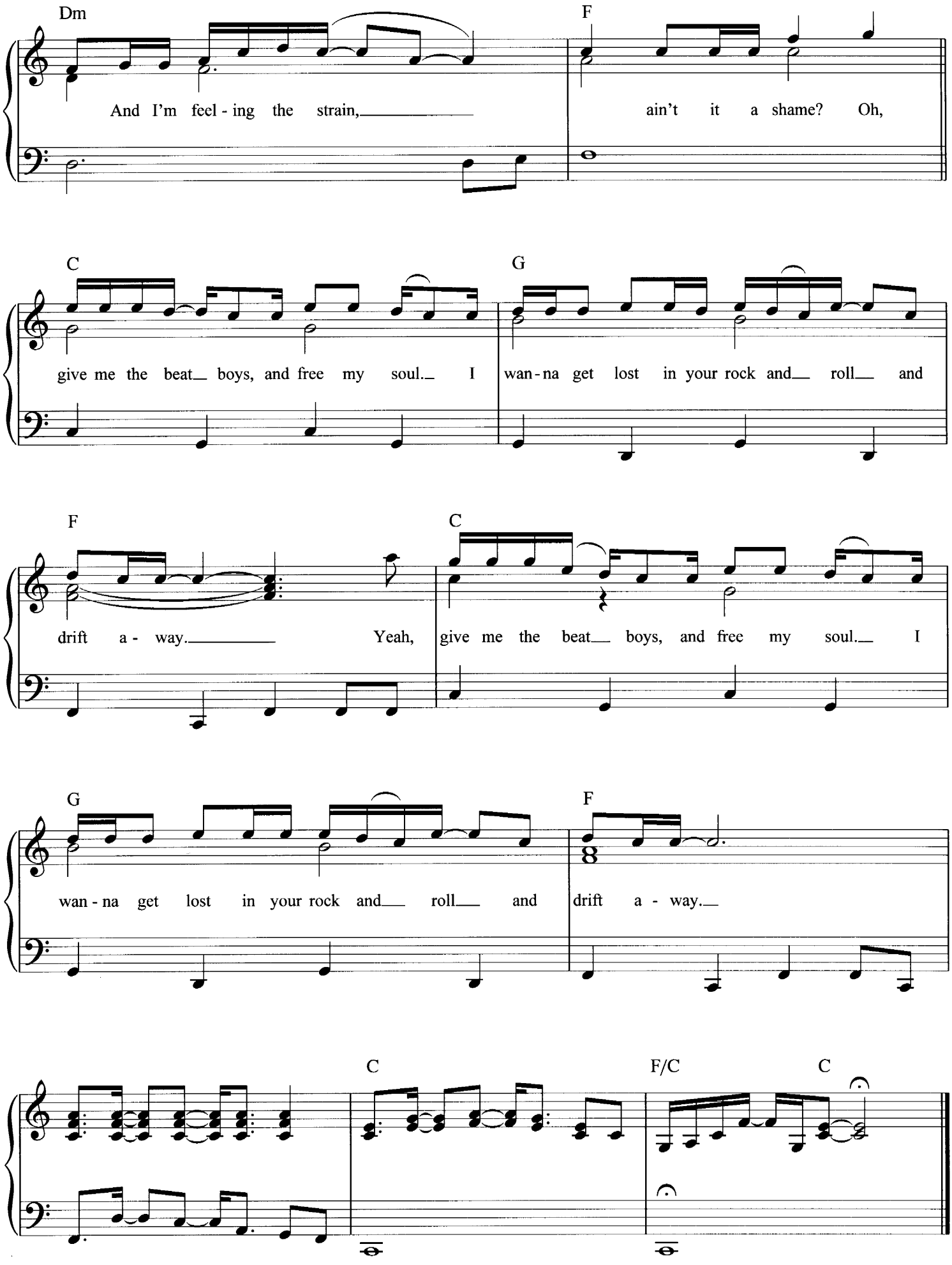
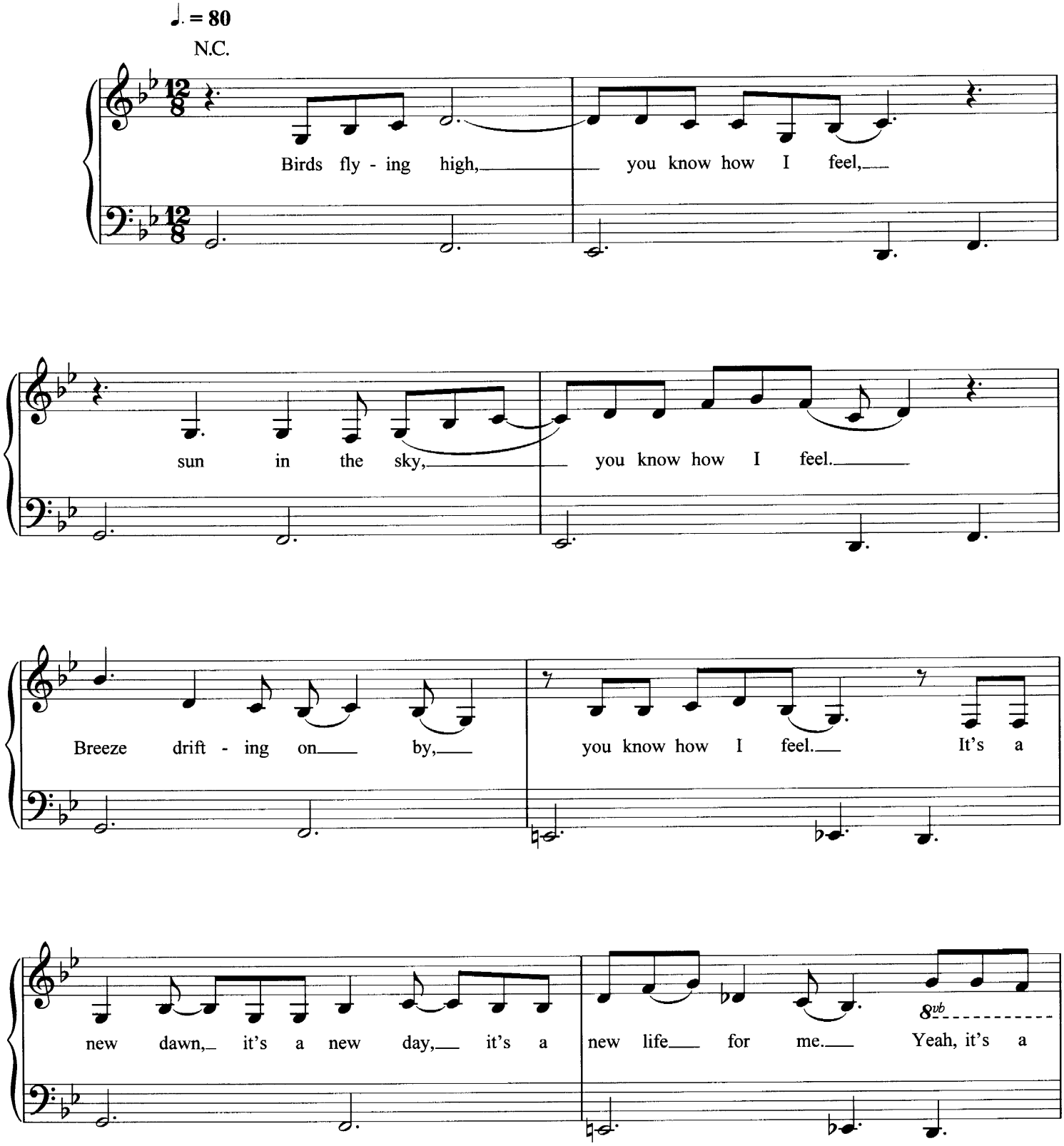

Dm
F
And I'm feel - ing the strain,
ain't it a shame? Oh,
C
G
give me the beat boys, and free my soul. I
wan - na get lost in your rock and roll and
F
C
drift a - way. Yeah,
give me the beat boys, and free my soul. I
G
F
wan - na get lost in your rock and roll and
drift a - way.
C
F/C
C

Feeling Good

Words & Music by Leslie Bricusse & Anthony Newley

♩. = 80
N.C.
Birds fly - ing high, you know how I feel,
sun in the sky, you know how I feel.
Breeze drift - ing on by, you know how I feel. It's a
new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for me. Yeah, it's a
8vb

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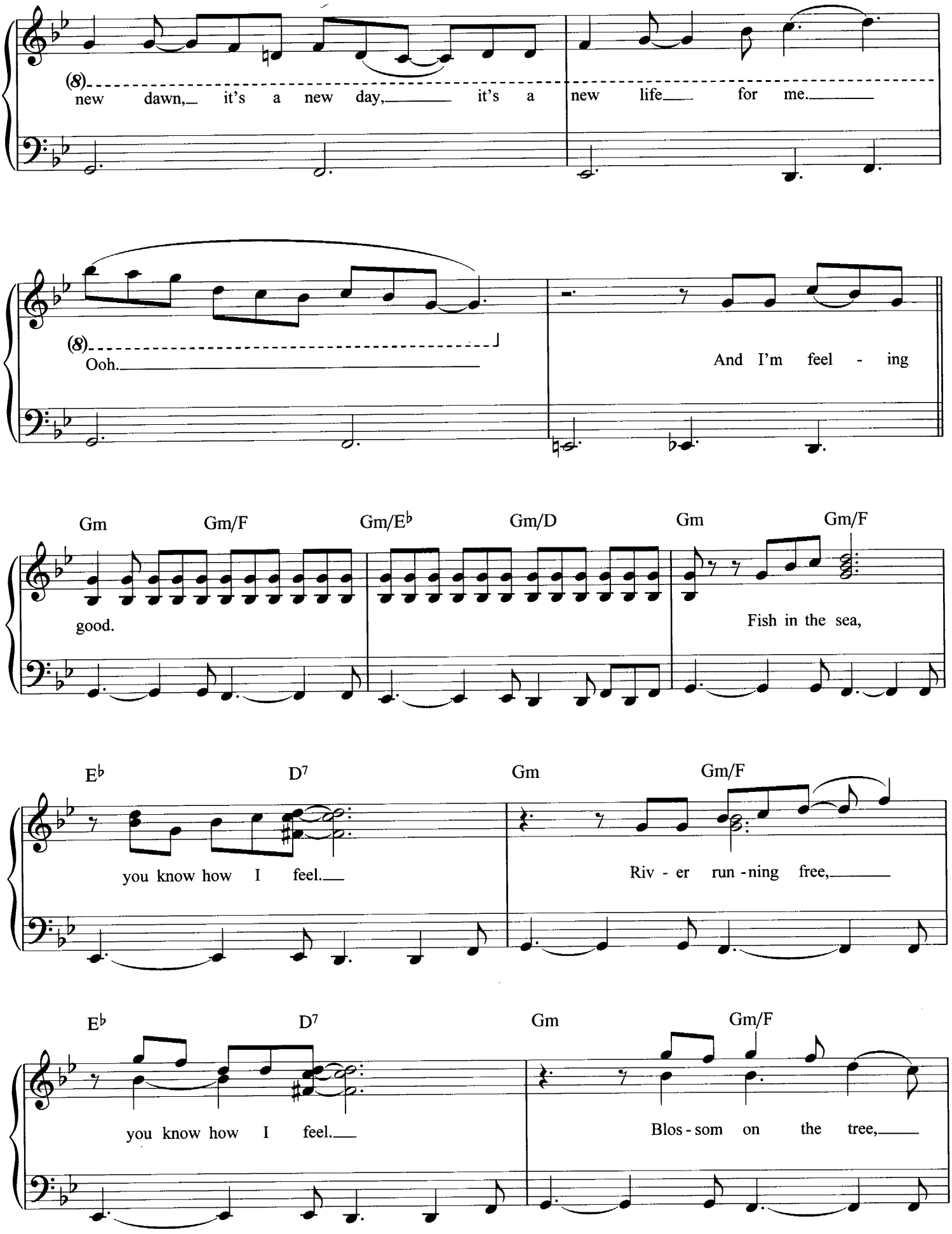
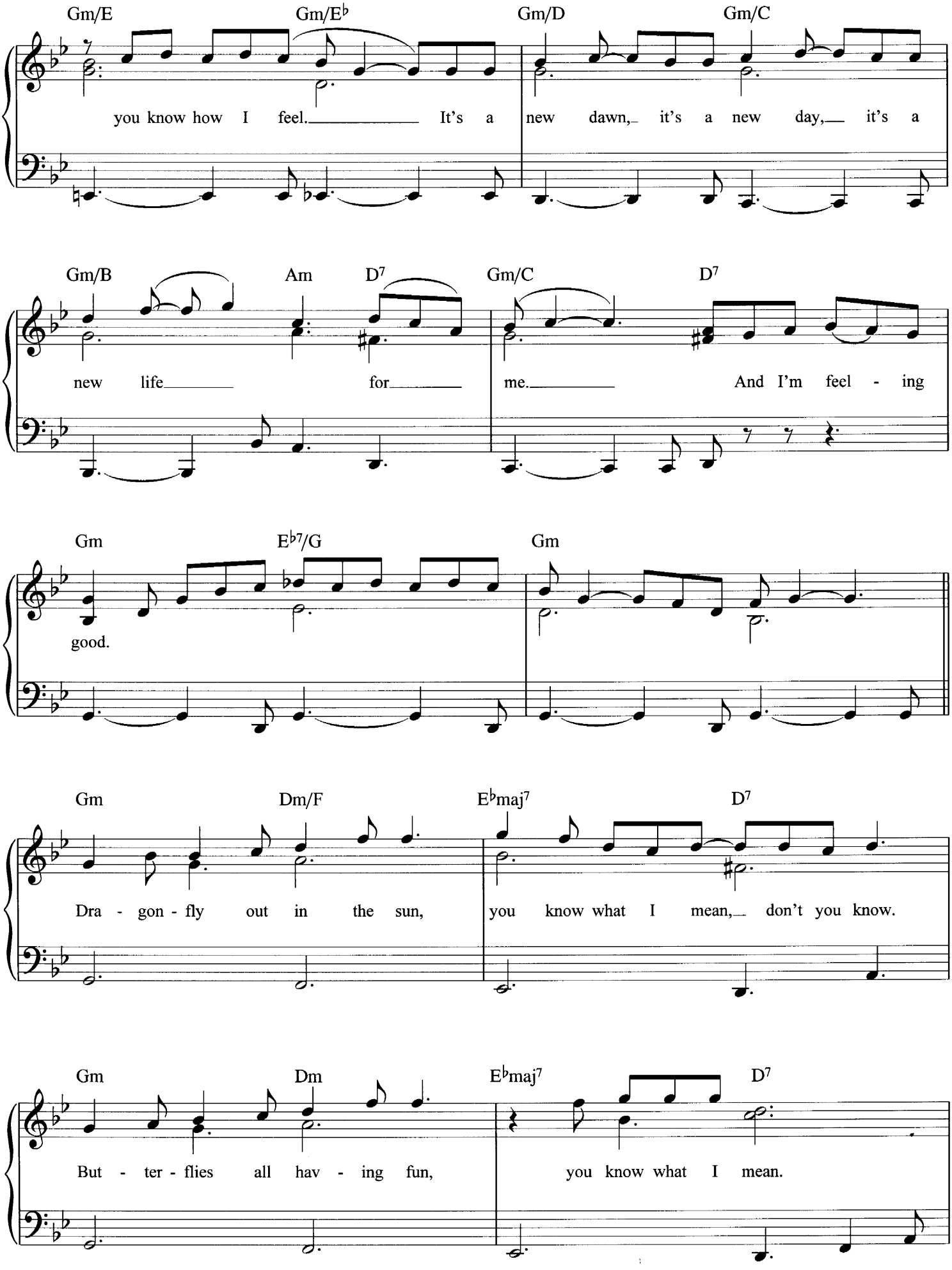
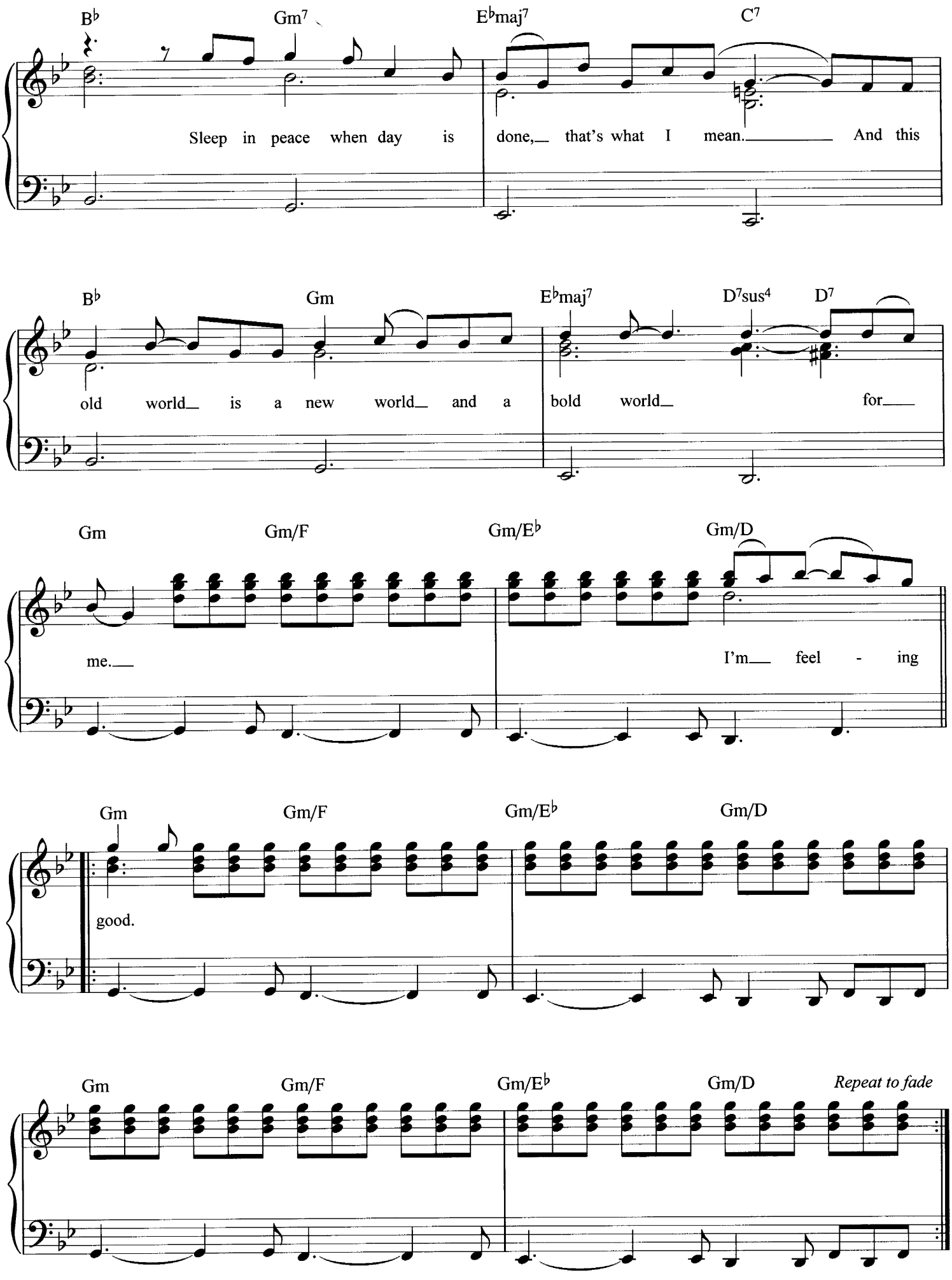
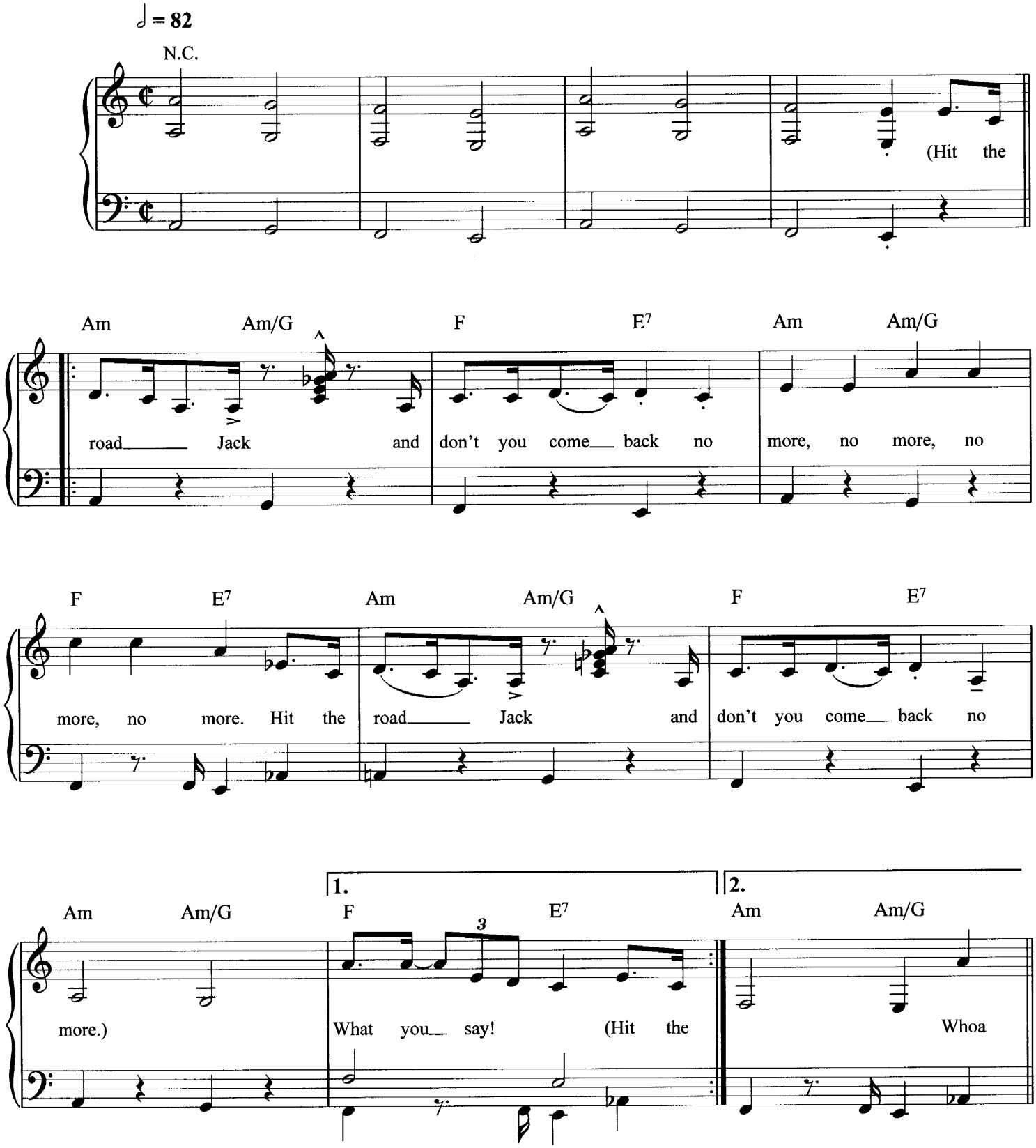

(8)
new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life for me.
(8)
Ooh.
And I'm feel - ing
Gm Gm/F Gm/E♭ Gm/D Gm Gm/F
good.
Fish in the sea,
E♭ D7 Gm Gm/F
you know how I feel.
Riv - er run - ning free,
E♭ D7 Gm Gm/F
you know how I feel.
Blos - som on the tree,

Gm/E Gm/E♭ Gm/D Gm/C
you know how I feel. It's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a
Gm/B Am D7 Gm/C D7
new life for me. And I'm feel - ing
Gm E♭7/G Gm
good.
Gm Dm/F E♭maj7 D7
Dra - gon - fly out in the sun, you know what I mean, don't you know.
Gm Dm E♭maj7 D7
But - ter - flies all hav - ing fun, you know what I mean.

B♭ Gm7 E♭maj7 C7
Sleep in peace when day is done, that's what I mean. And this
B♭ Gm E♭maj7 D7sus4 D7
old world is a new world and a bold world for
Gm Gm/F Gm/E♭ Gm/D
me.
I'm feel - ing
Gm Gm/F Gm/E♭ Gm/D
good.
Gm Gm/F Gm/E♭ Gm/D Repeat to fade

Hit The Road Jack

Words & Music by Percy Mayfield


♩ = 82
N.C.
(Hit the
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
road Jack and don't you come back no more, no more, no
F E7 Am Am/G F E7
more, no more. Hit the road Jack and don't you come back no
1. 2.
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
more.) What you say! (Hit the Whoa

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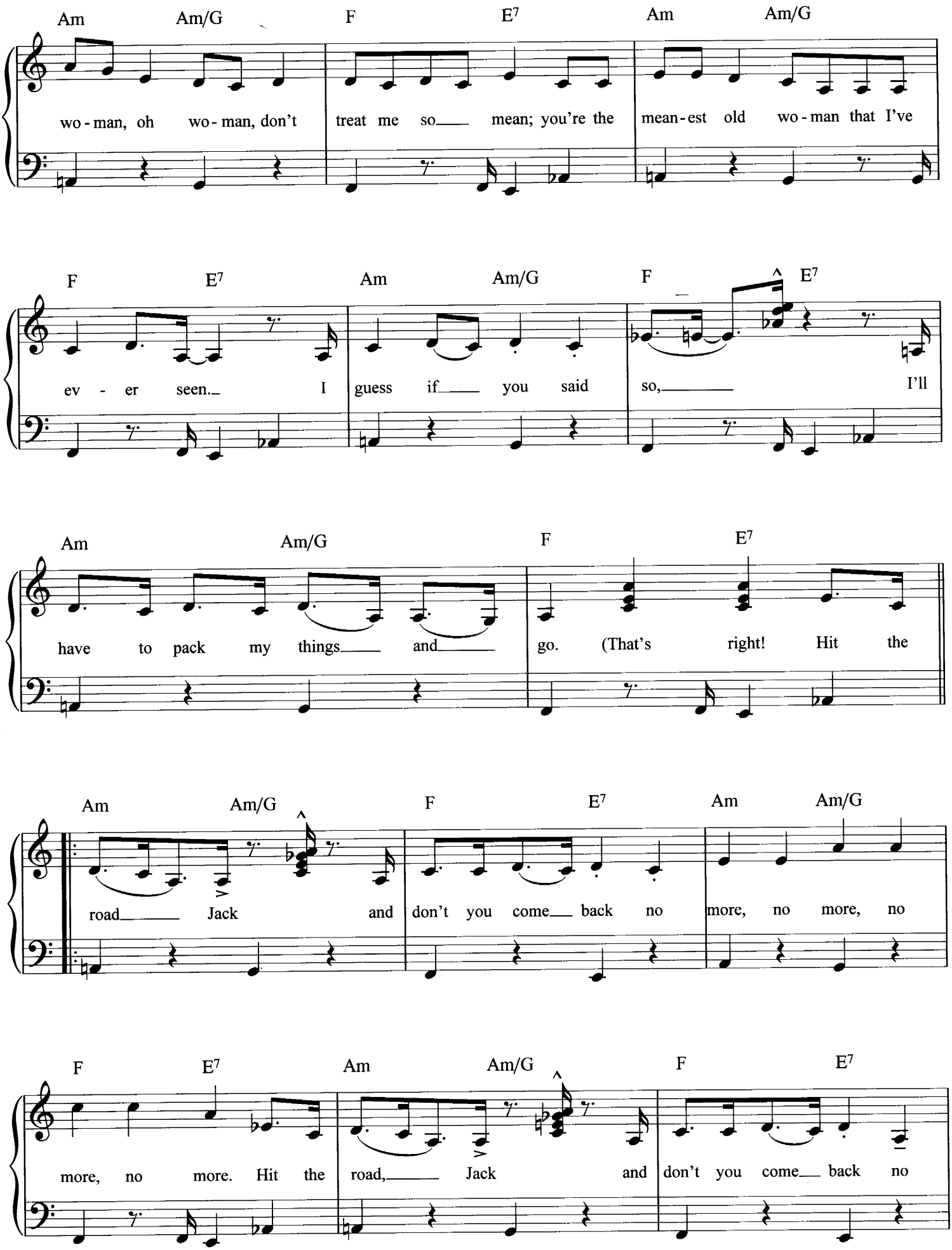
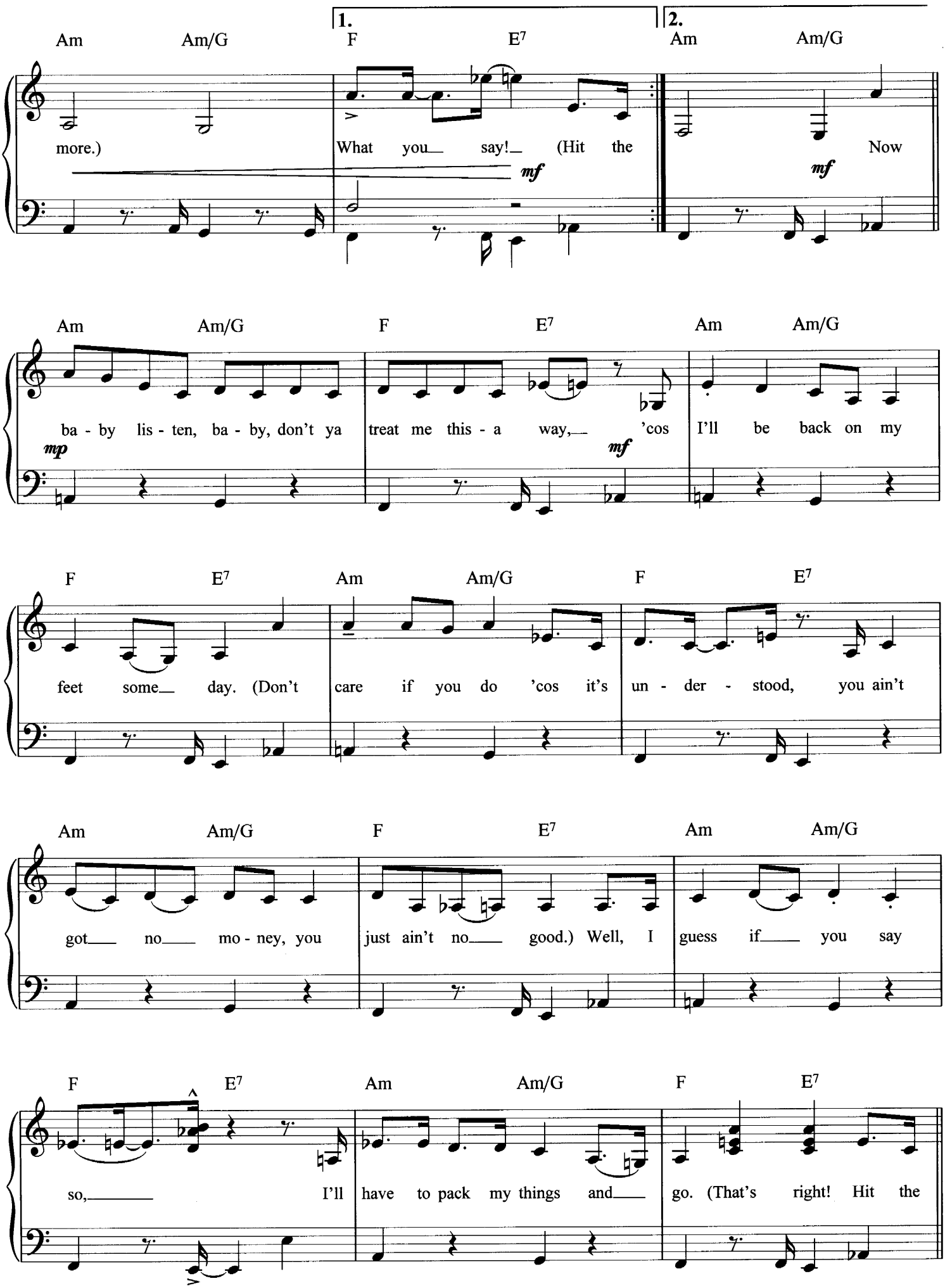
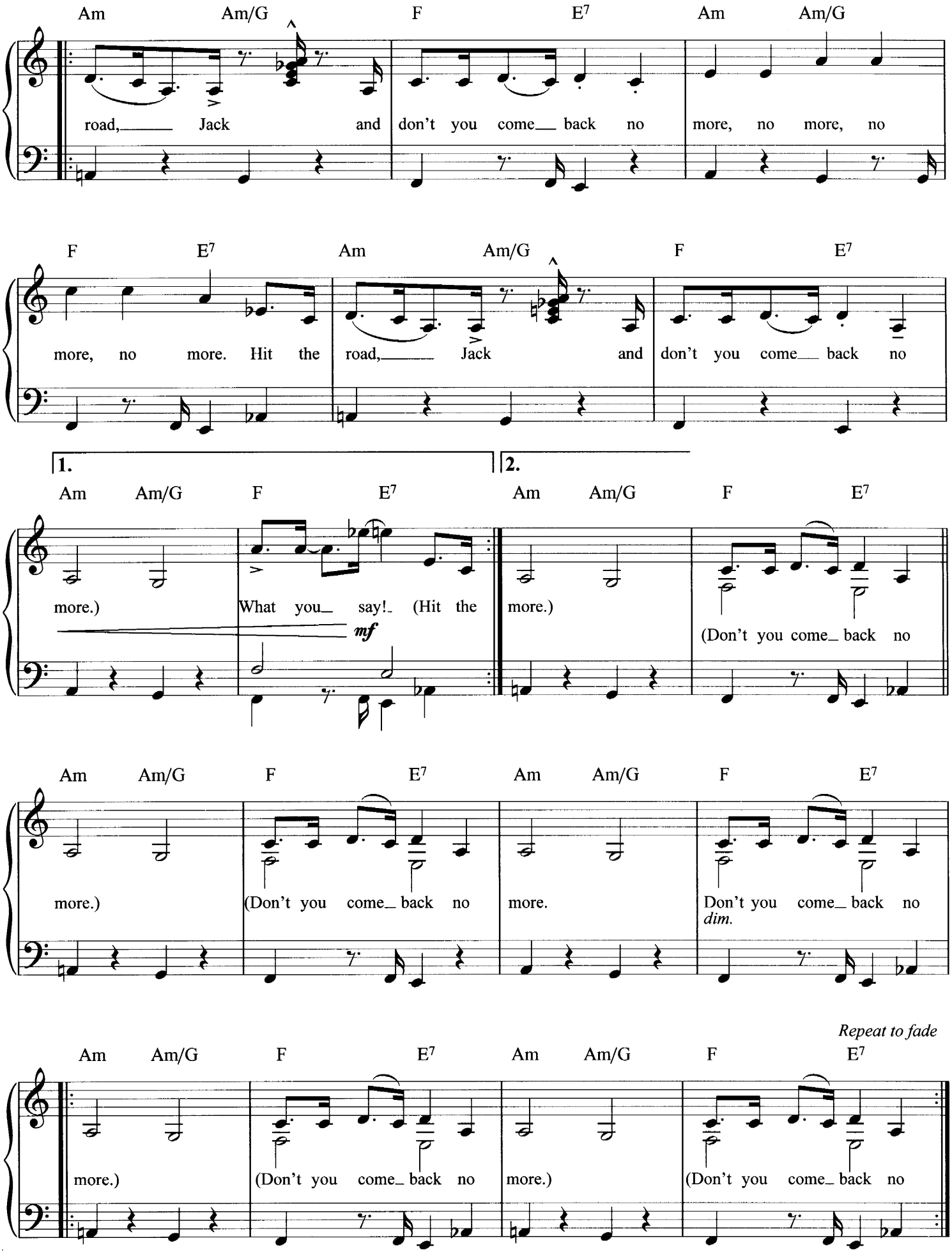
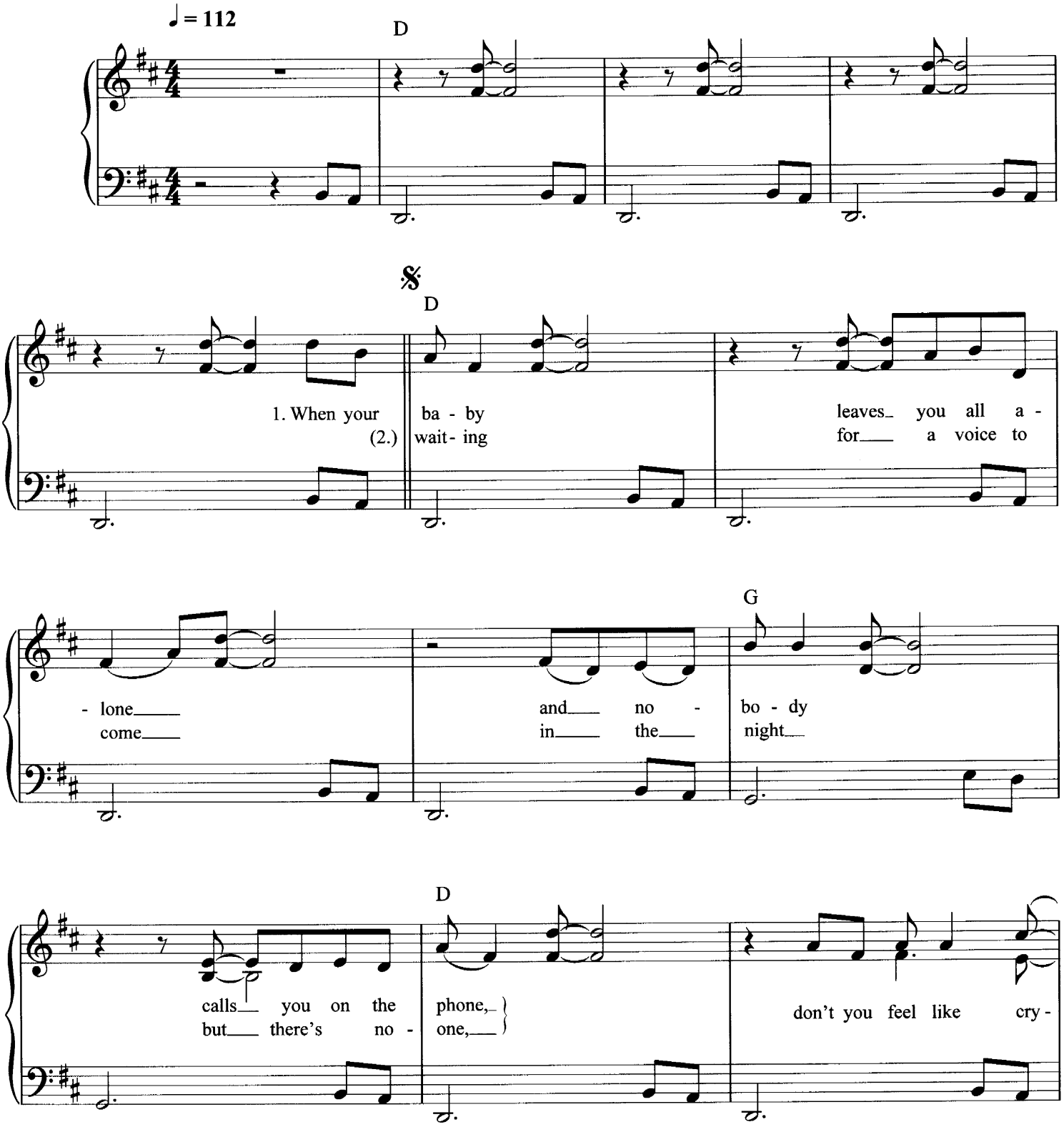

Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
wo - man, oh wo - man, don't treat me so mean; you're the mean - est old wo - man that I've
F E7 Am Am/G F E7
ev - er seen. I guess if you said so, I'll
Am Am/G F E7
have to pack my things and go. (That's right! Hit the
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
road Jack and don't you come back no more, no more, no
F E7 Am Am/G F E7
more, no more. Hit the road, Jack and don't you come back no

1.
2.
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
more.) What you say! (Hit the Now
mf mf
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
ba - by lis - ten, ba - by, don't ya treat me this - a way, 'cos I'll be back on my
mp mf
F E7 Am Am/G F E7
feet some day. (Don't care if you do 'cos it's un - der - stood, you ain't
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
got no mo - ney, you just ain't no good.) Well, I guess if you say
F E7 Am Am/G F E7
so, I'll have to pack my things and go. (That's right! Hit the

Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G
road, Jack and don't you come back no more, no more, no
F E7 Am Am/G F E7
more, no more. Hit the road, Jack and don't you come back no
1.
2.
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G F E7
more.) What you say! (Hit the more.) (Don't you come back no
mf
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G F E7
more.) (Don't you come back no more. Don't you come back no
dim.
Repeat to fade
Am Am/G F E7 Am Am/G F E7
more.) (Don't you come back no more.) (Don't you come back no

Cry To Me

Words & Music by Bert Russell

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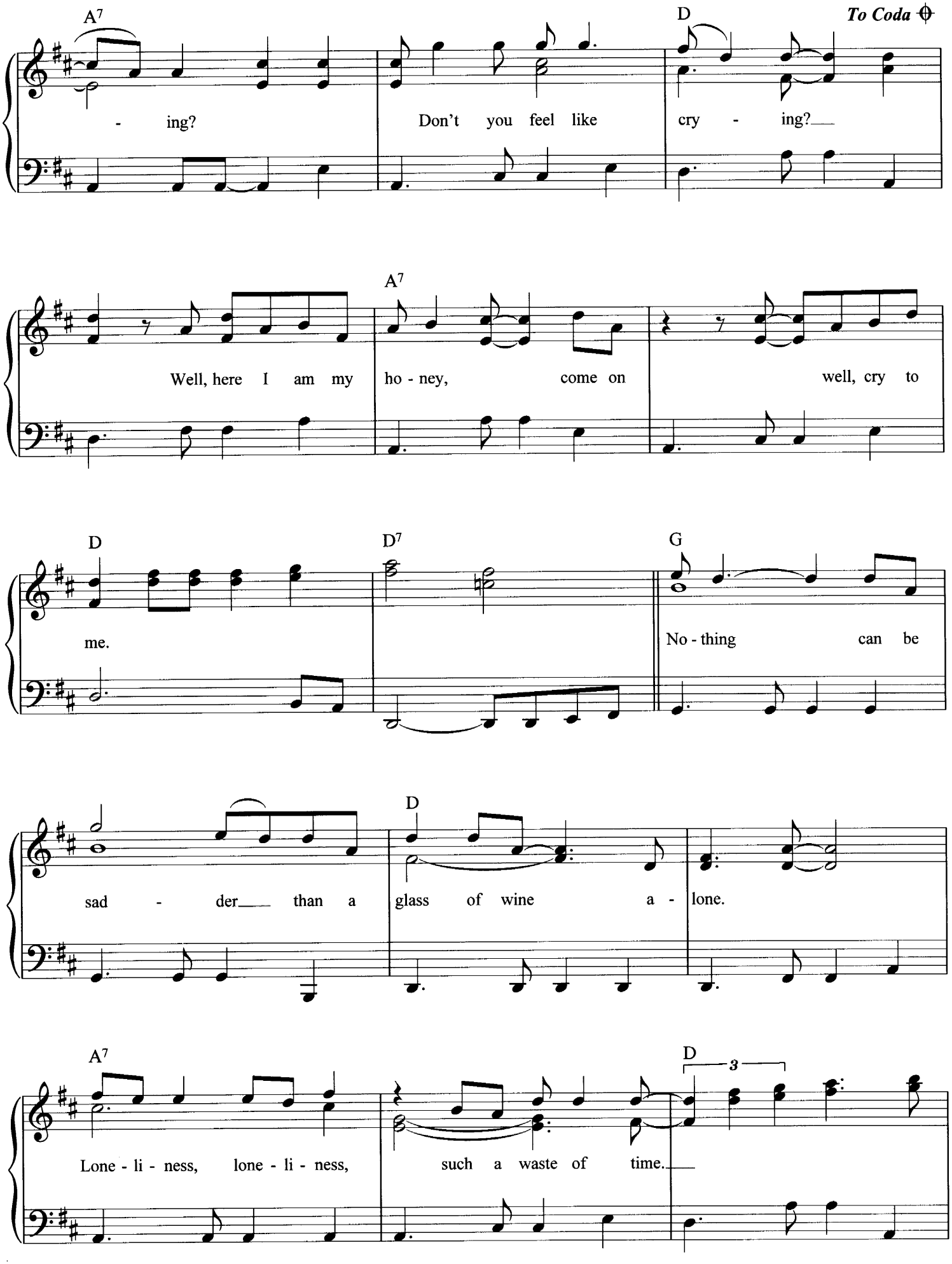
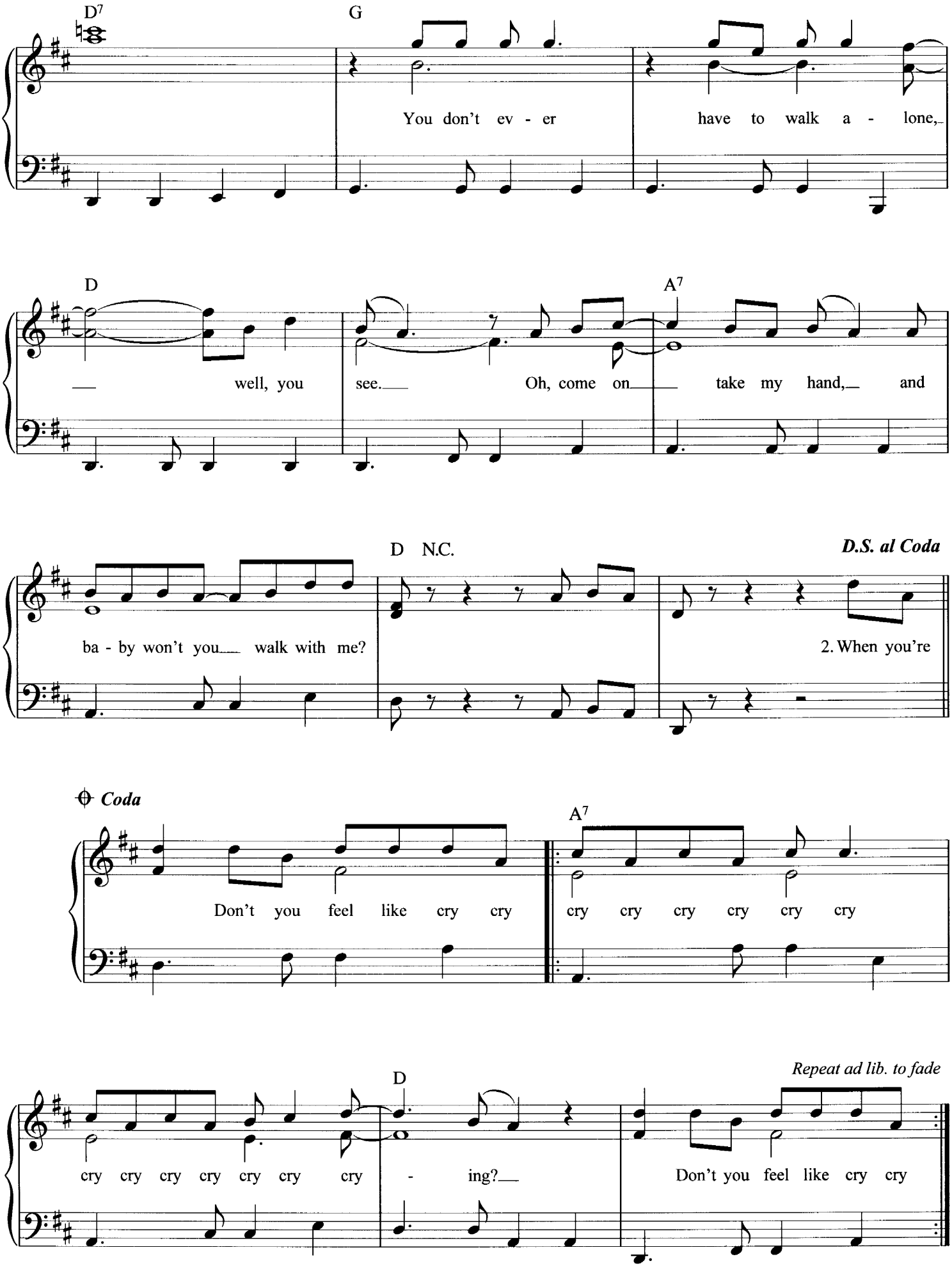
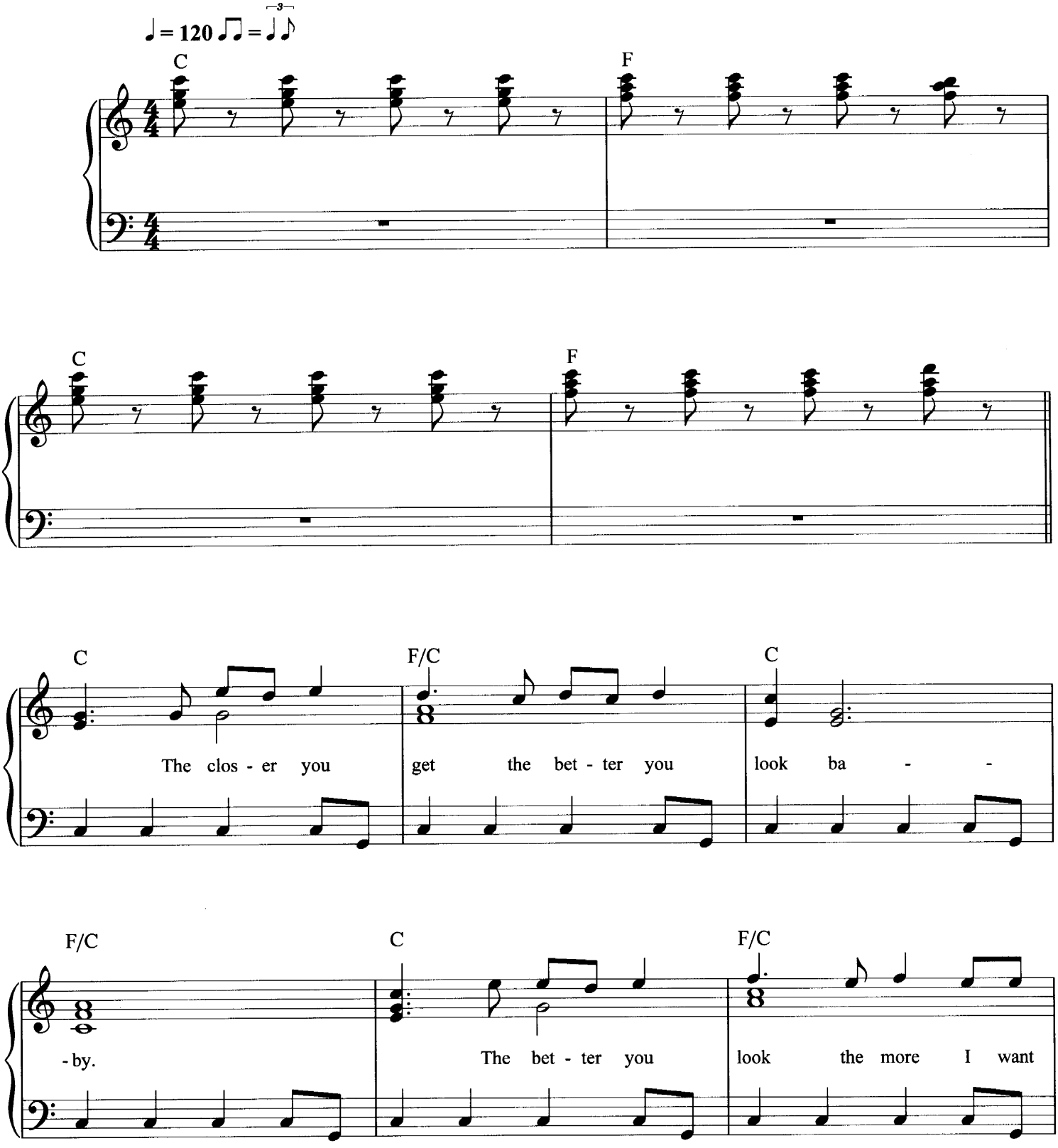

A7
D
To Coda
- ing?
Don't you feel like
cry - ing?
A7
Well, here I am my
ho - ney,
come on
well, cry to
D
D7
G
me.
No - thing
can be
D
sad - der
than a
glass of wine
a - lone.
A7
D
3
Lone - li - ness,
lone - li - ness,
such a waste of
time.

D7
G
You don't ev - er have to walk a - lone,
D
A7
well, you see. Oh, come on take my hand, and
D N.C.
D.S. al Coda
ba - by won't you walk with me?
2. When you're
Coda
A7
Don't you feel like cry cry
cry cry cry cry cry cry
Repeat ad lib. to fade
D
cry cry cry cry cry cry cry - ing?
Don't you feel like cry cry

I Get The Sweetest Feeling

Words & Music by Van McCoy & Alicia Evelyn

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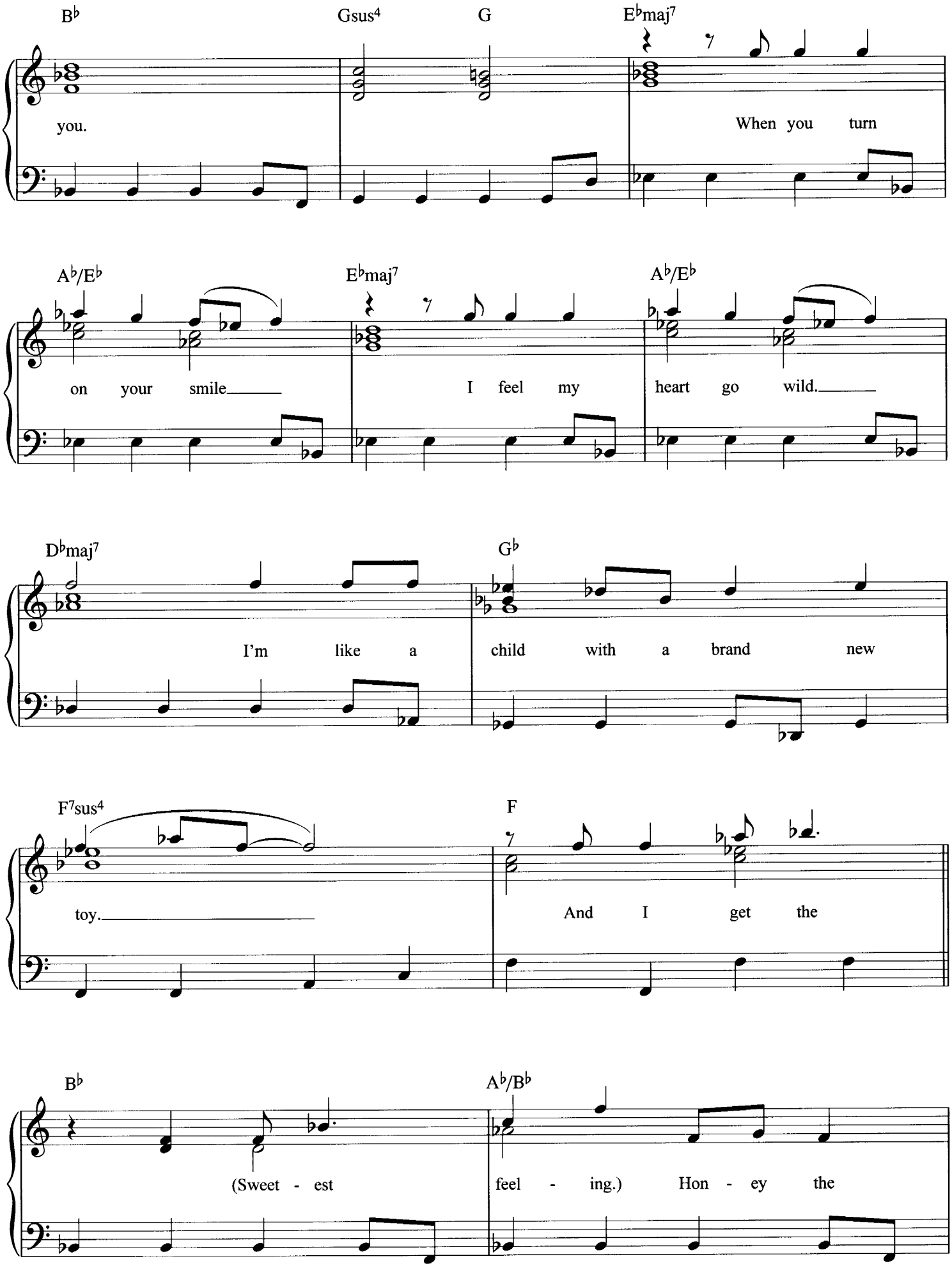
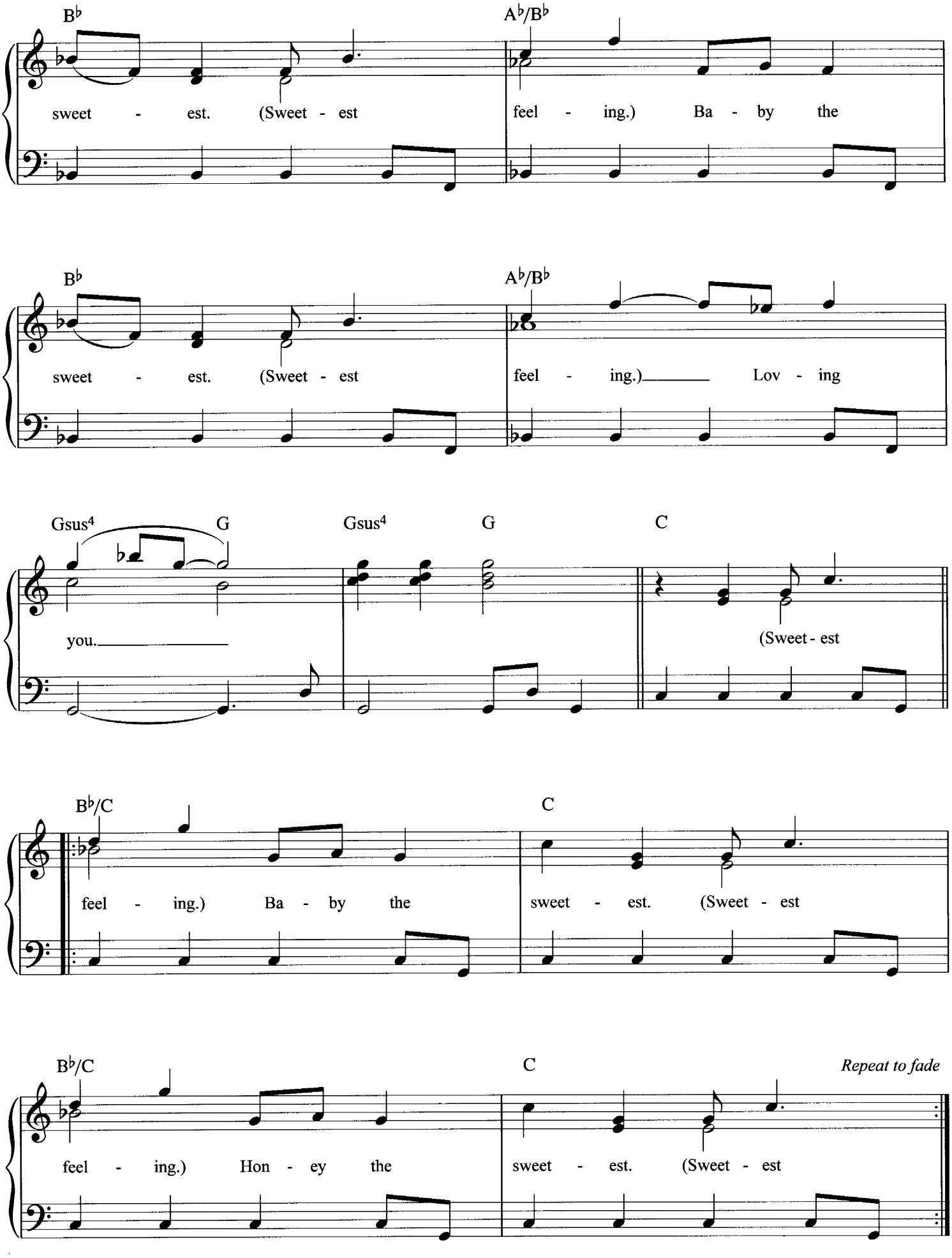
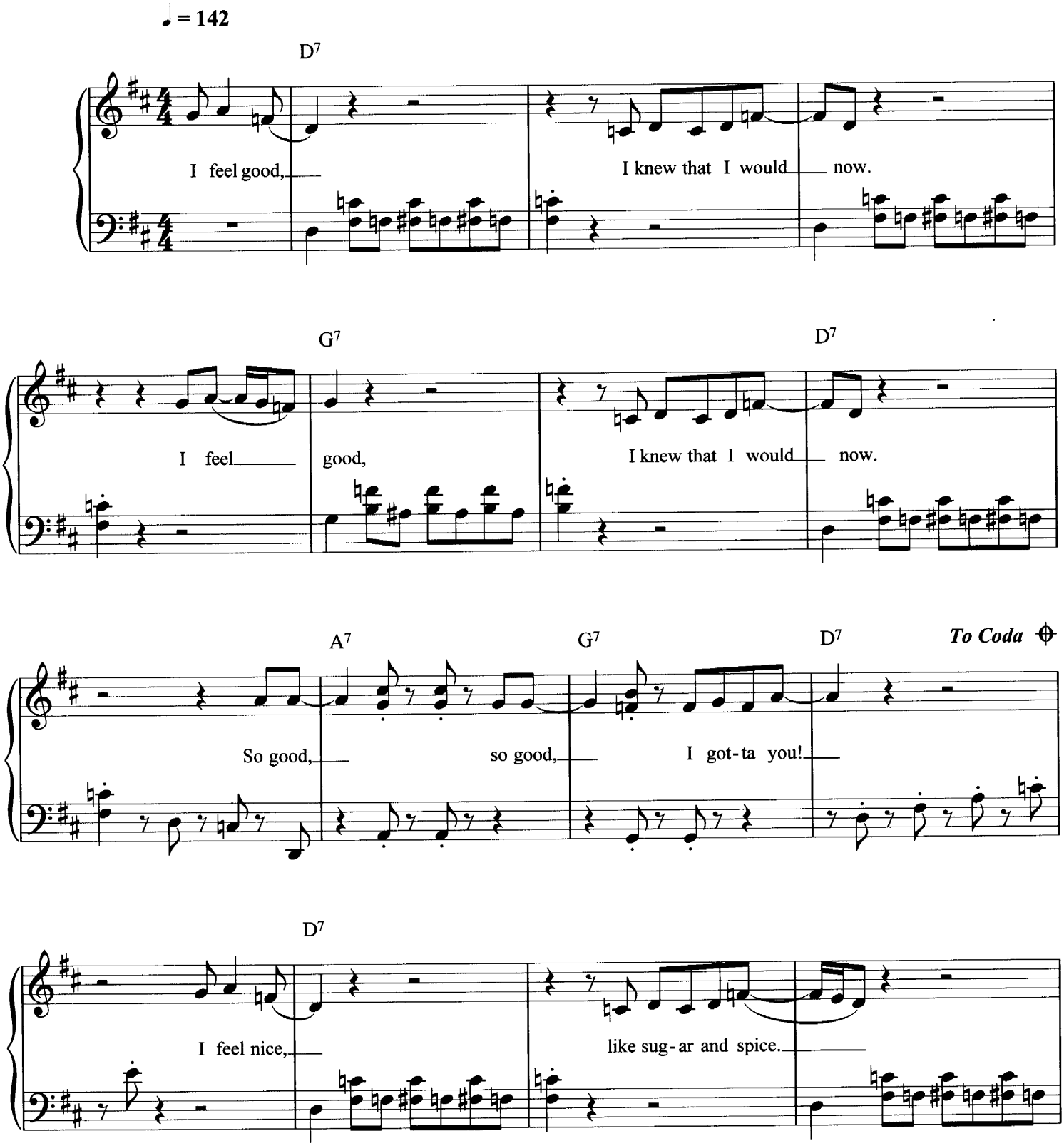

B♭
Gsus4
G
E♭maj7
you.
When you turn
A♭/E♭
E♭maj7
A♭/E♭
on your smile
I feel my
heart go wild.
D♭maj7
G♭
I'm like a
child with a brand new
F7sus4
F
toy.
And I get the
B♭
A♭/B♭
(Sweet - est
feel - ing.)
Hon - ey the

B♭
A♭/B♭
sweet - est. (Sweet - est
feel - ing.) Ba - by the
B♭
A♭/B♭
sweet - est. (Sweet - est
feel - ing.) Lov - ing
Gsus4
G
Gsus4
G
C
you.
(Sweet - est
B♭/C
C
feel - ing.) Ba - by the
sweet - est. (Sweet - est
B♭/C
C
Repeat to fade
feel - ing.) Hon - ey the
sweet - est. (Sweet - est

I Got You (I Feel Good)

Words & Music by James Brown

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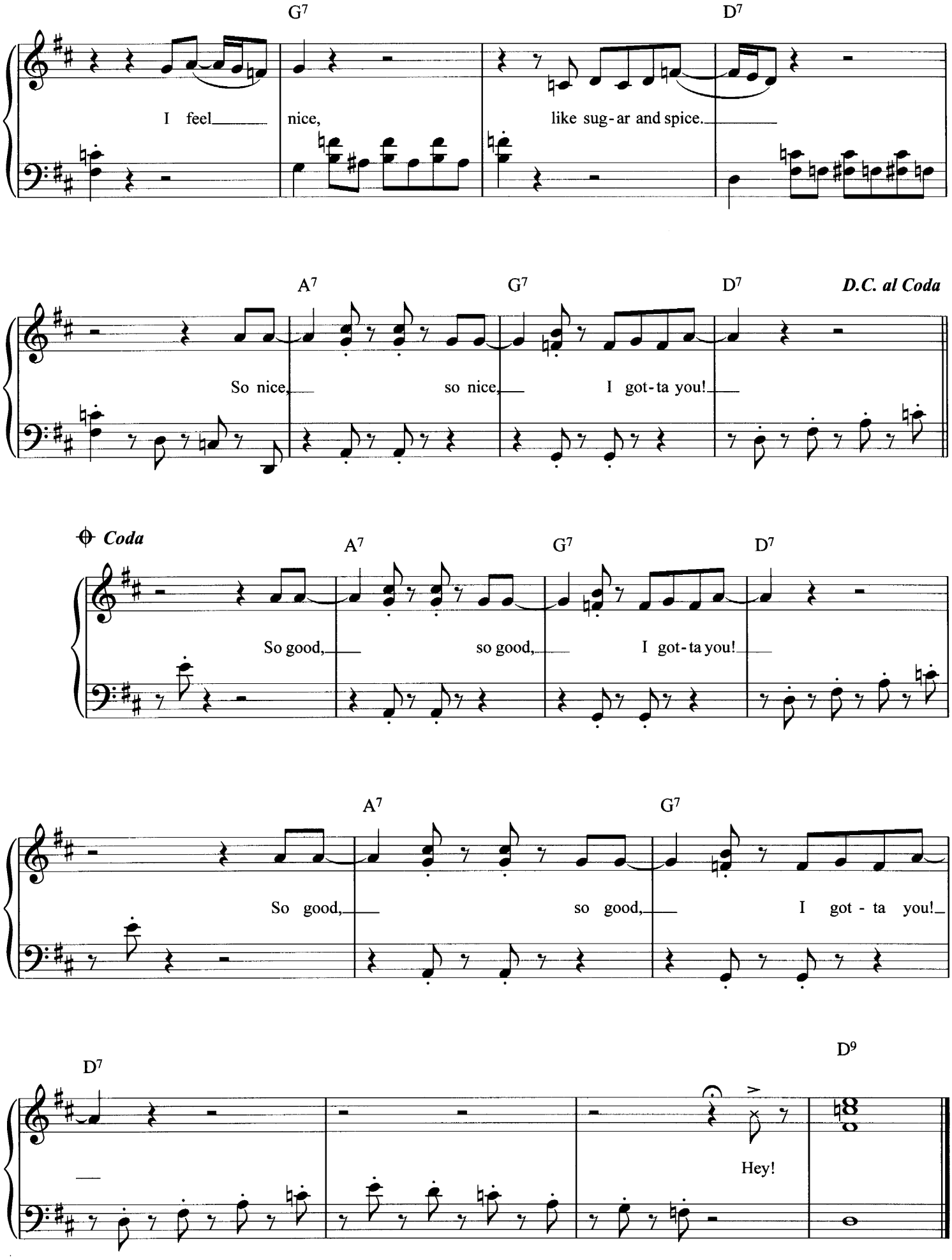
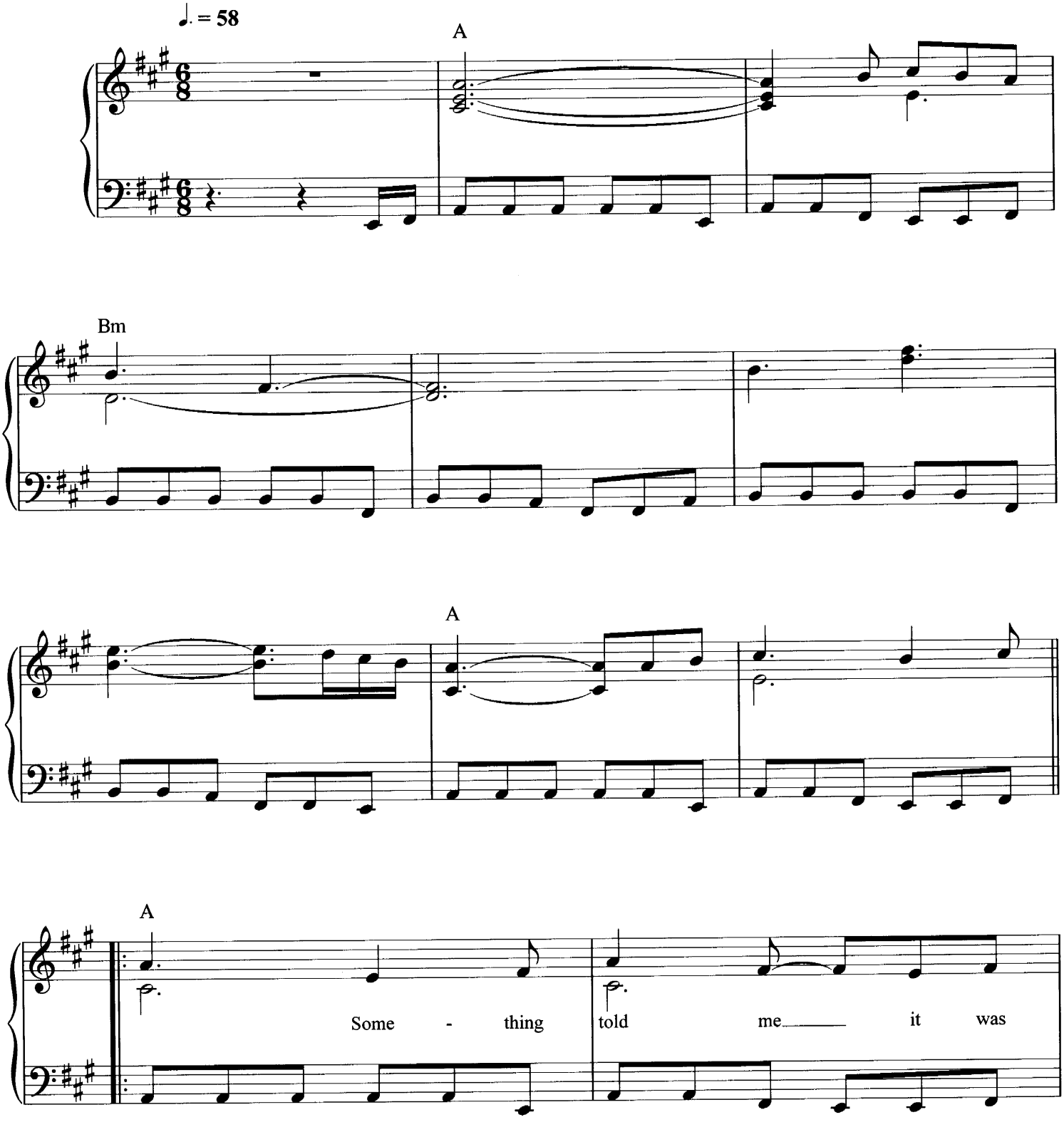

G7
D7
I feel nice, like sug-ar and spice.
A7
G7
D7
D.C. al Coda
So nice, so nice, I got-ta you!
Coda
A7
G7
D7
So good, so good, I got-ta you!
A7
G7
So good, so good, I got - ta you!
D7
D9
Hey!

I'd Rather Go Blind

Words & Music by Ellington Jordan & Billy Foster

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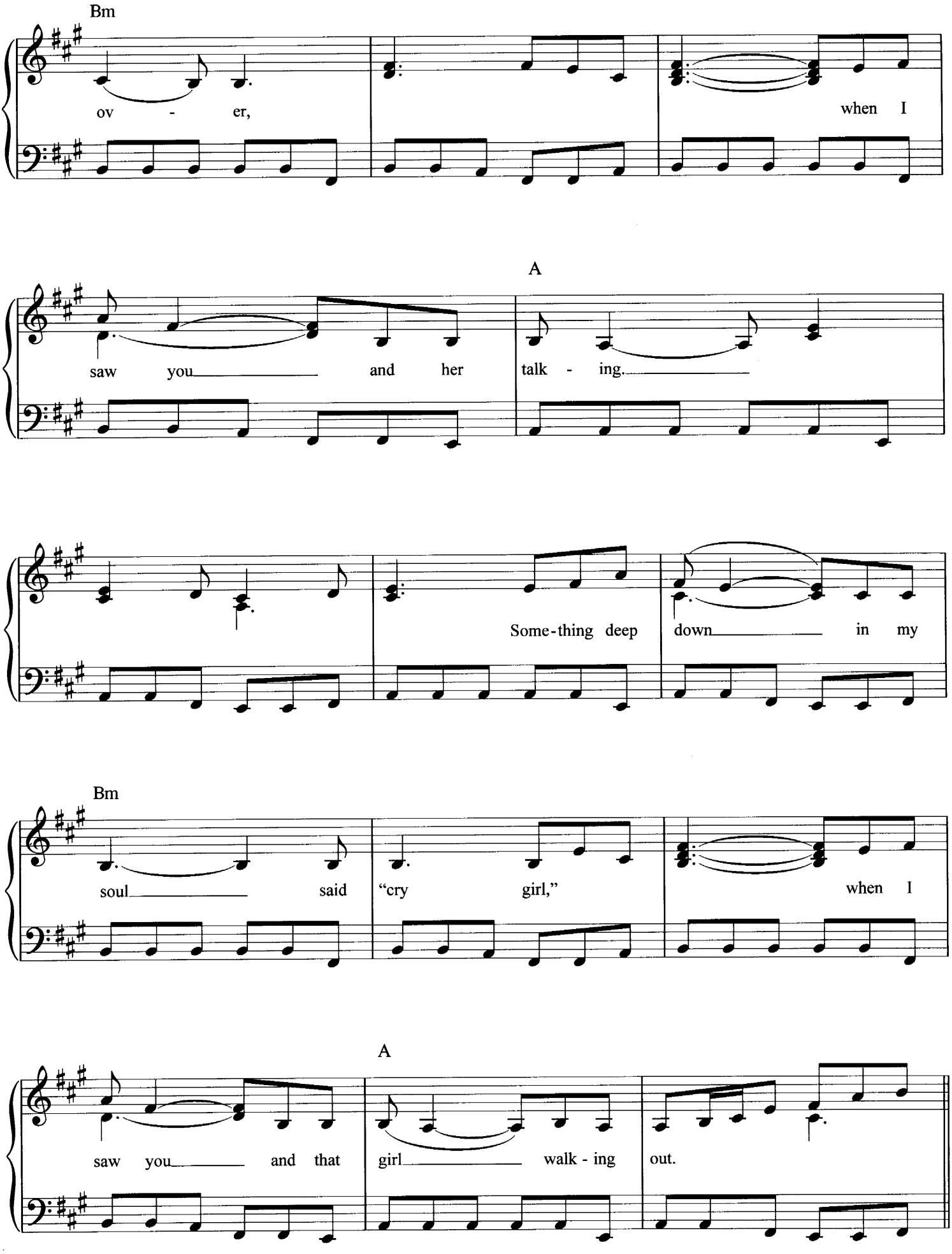
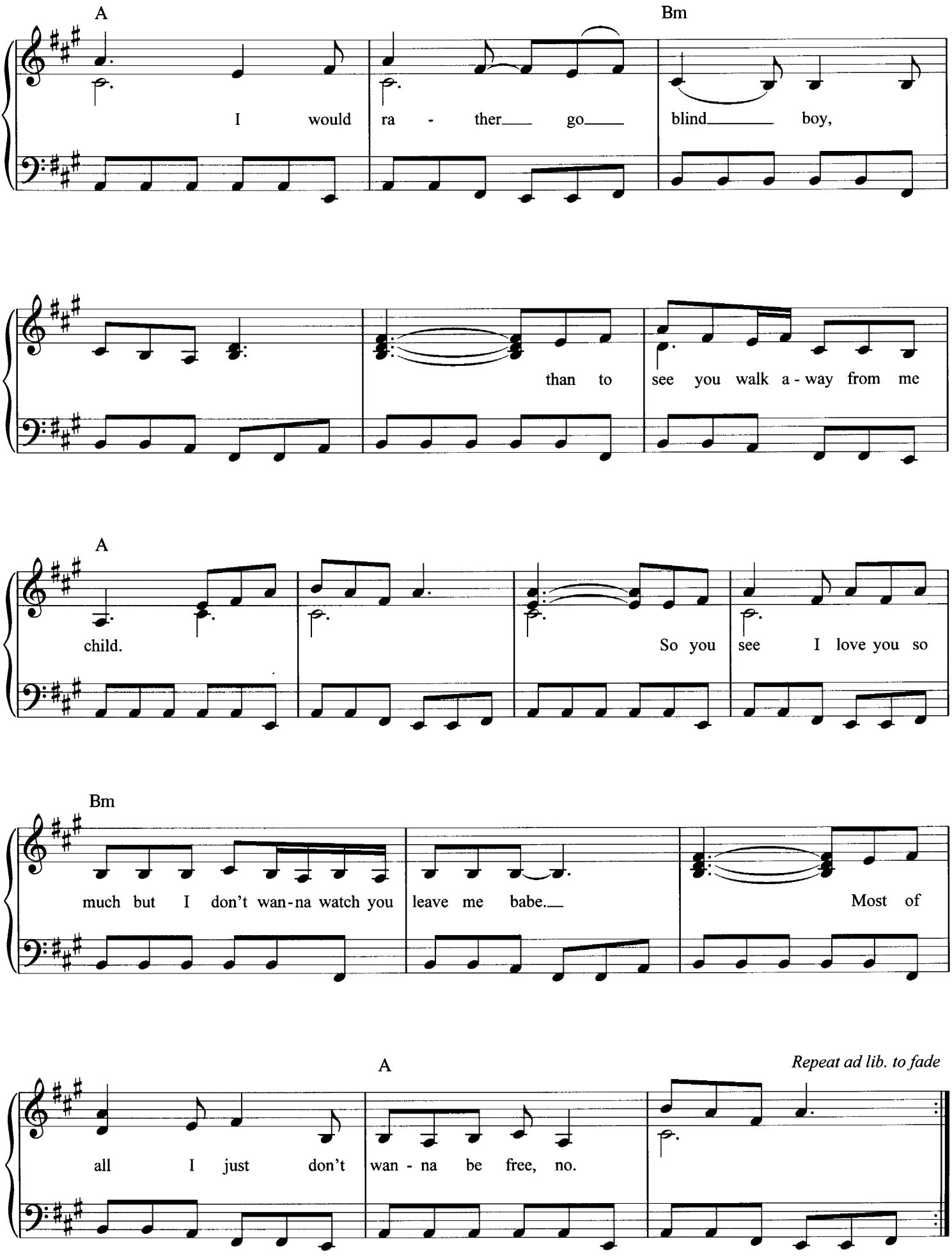
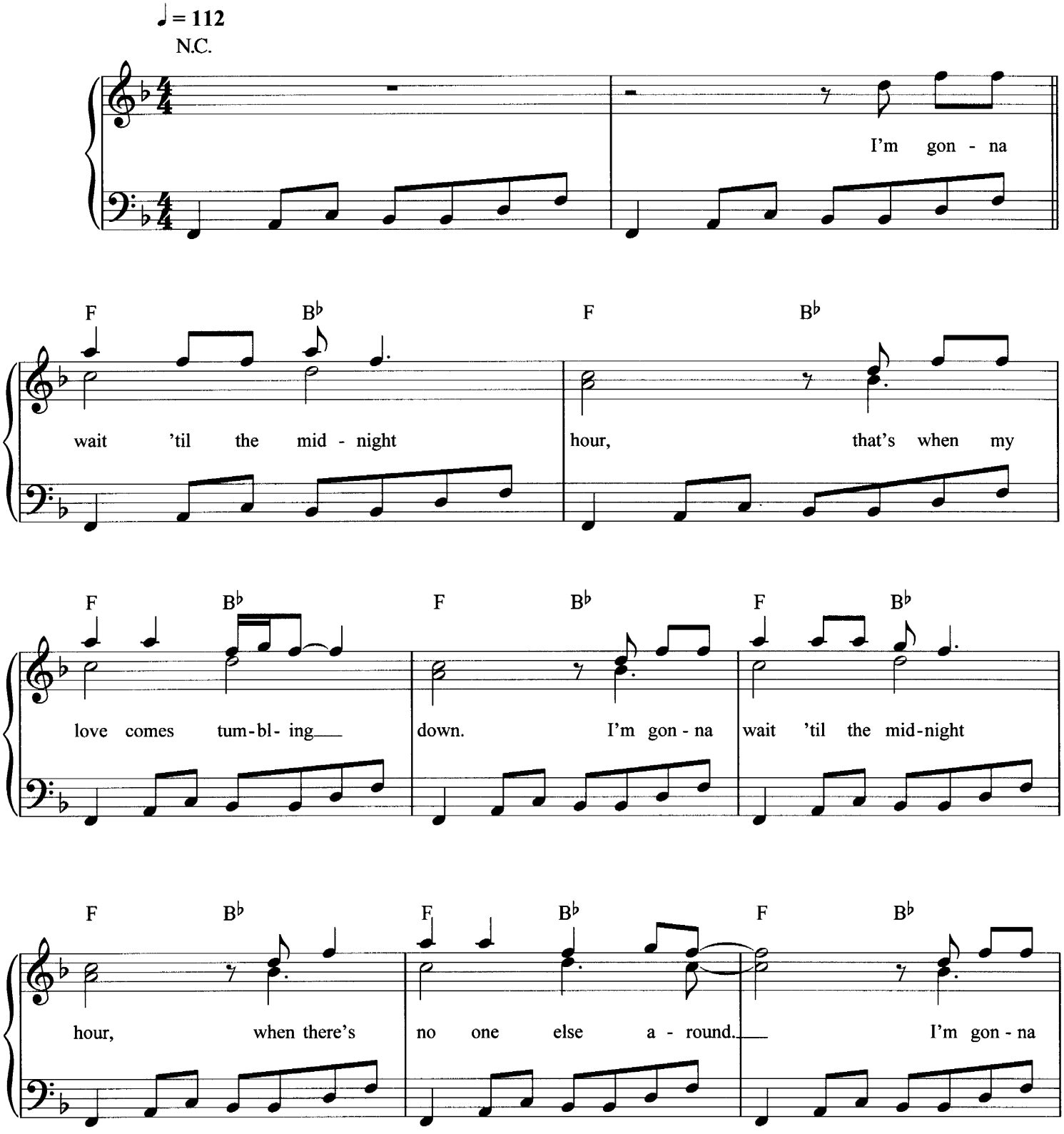

Bm
ov - er,
when I
A
saw you and her
talk - ing.
Some-thing deep
down in my
Bm
soul said
"cry girl,"
when I
A
saw you and that
girl walk - ing
out.

A
Bm
I would ra - ther go blind boy,
than to see you walk a - way from me
A
child.
So you see I love you so
Bm
much but I don't wan-na watch you
leave me babe.
Most of
A
Repeat ad lib. to fade
all I just don't
wan - na be free, no.

In The Midnight Hour

Words & Music by Steve Cropper & Wilson Pickett

♩ = 112
N.C.
I'm gon - na
F B♭ F B♭
wait 'til the mid - night hour, that's when my
F B♭ F B♭ F B♭
love comes tum-bl- ing down. I'm gon - na wait 'til the mid-night
F B♭ F B♭ F B♭
hour, when there's no one else a - round. I'm gon - na

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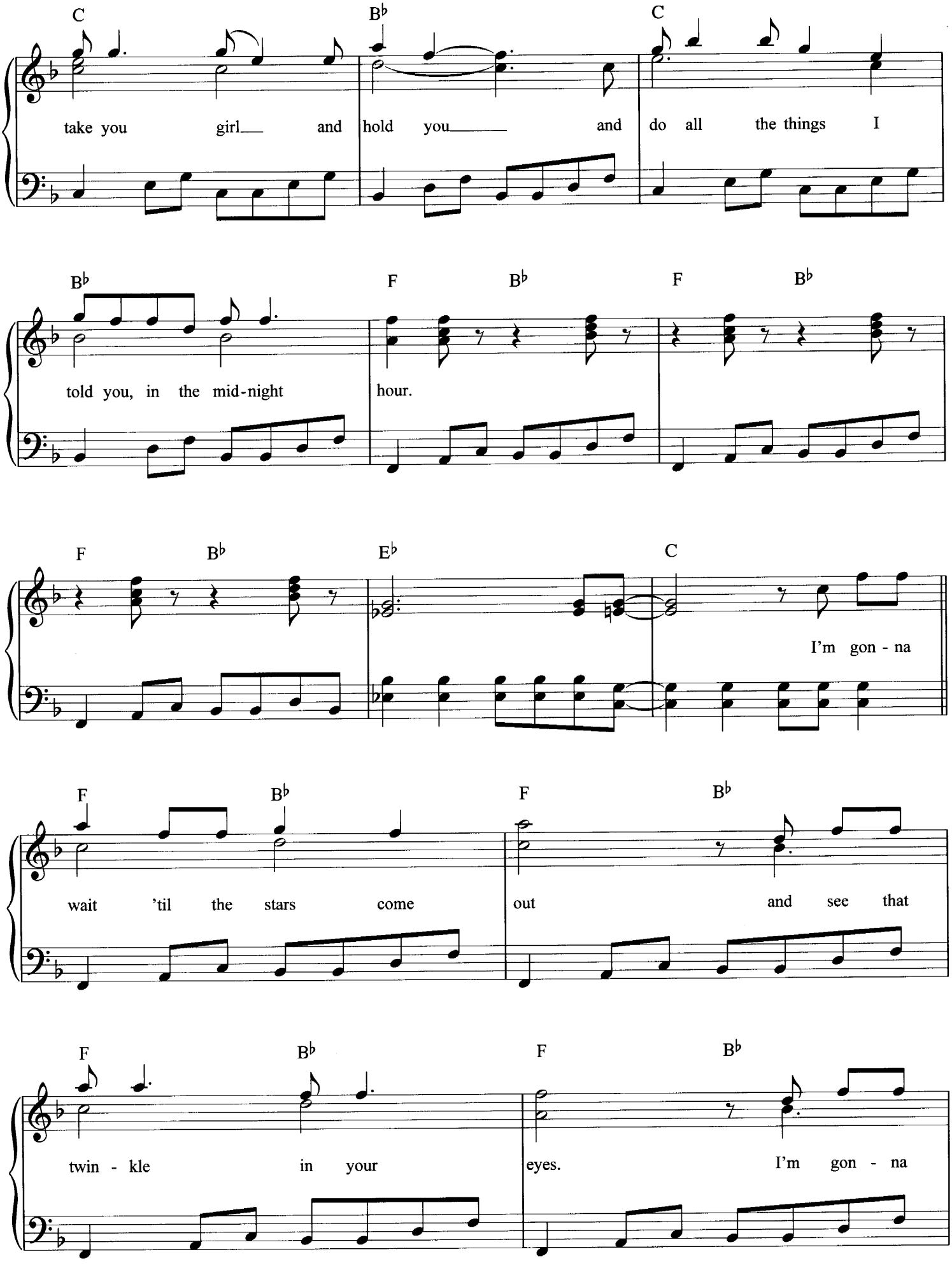
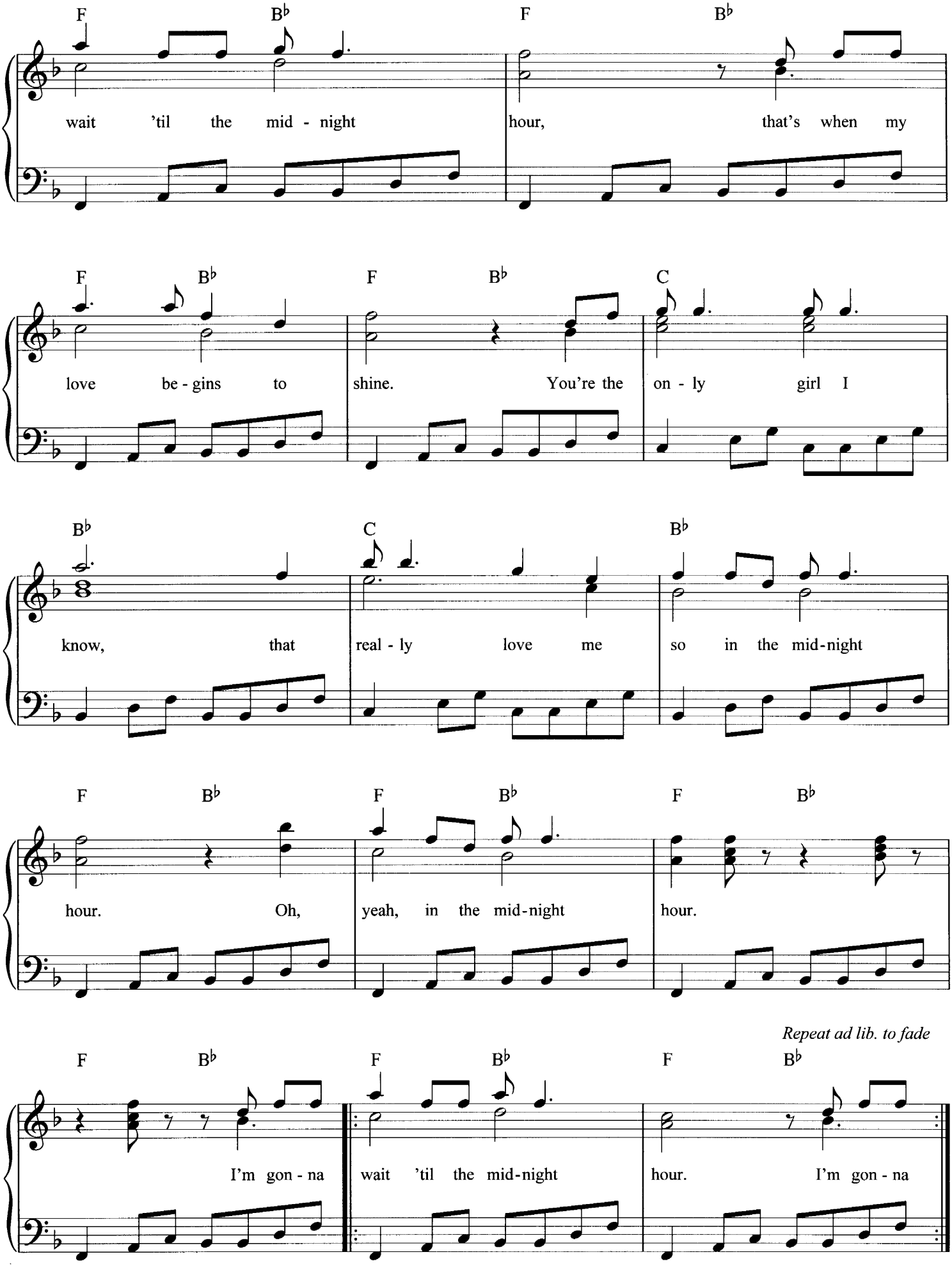
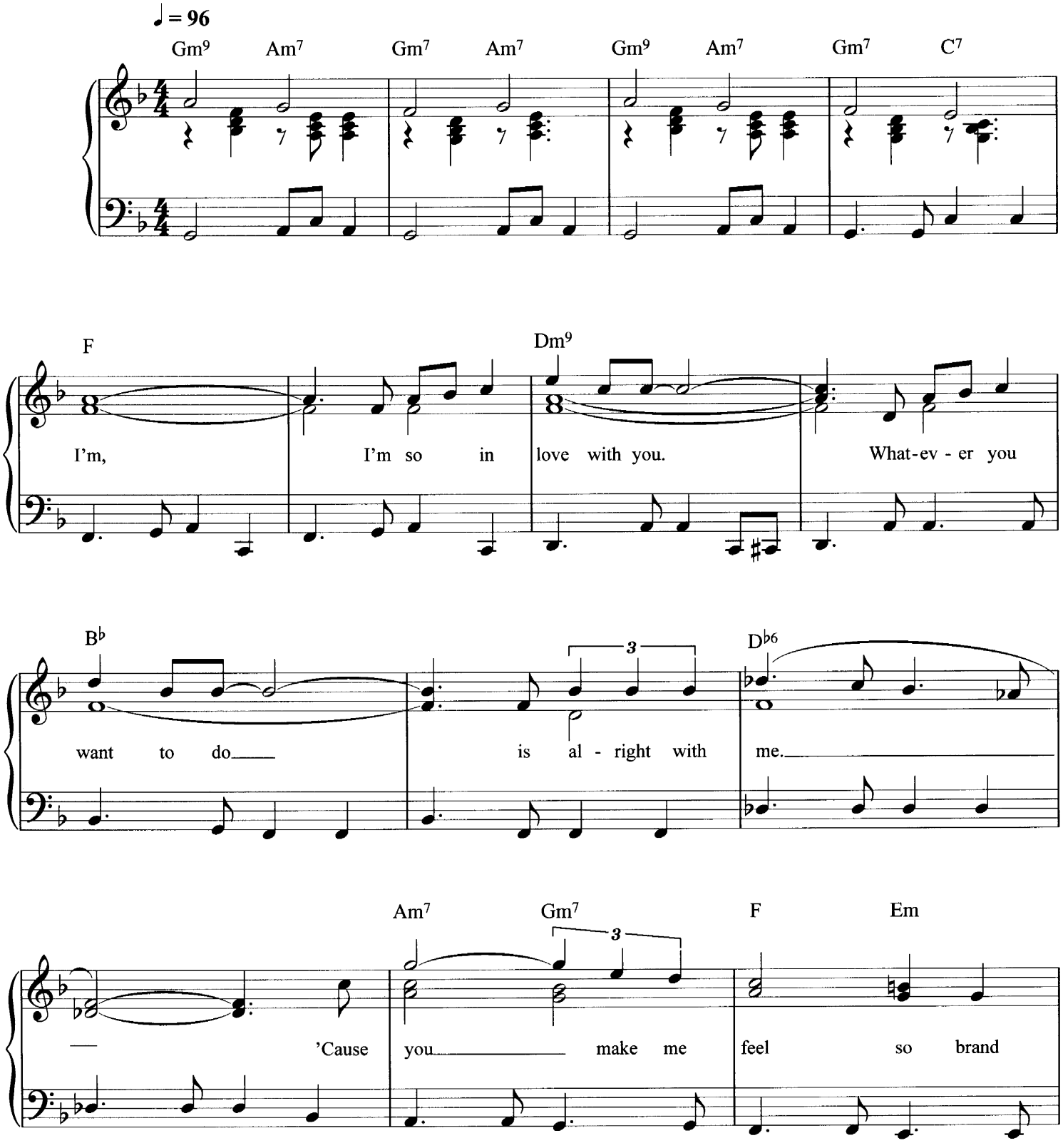

C B♭ C
take you girl and hold you and do all the things I
B♭ F B♭ F B♭
told you, in the mid-night hour.
F B♭ E♭ C
I'm gon - na
F B♭ F B♭
wait 'til the stars come out and see that
F B♭ F B♭
twin - kle in your eyes. I'm gon - na

F B♭ F B♭
wait 'til the mid - night hour, that's when my
F B♭ F B♭ C
love be - gins to shine. You're the on - ly girl I
B♭ C B♭
know, that real - ly love me so in the mid-night
F B♭ F B♭ F B♭
hour. Oh, yeah, in the mid-night hour.
Repeat ad lib. to fade
F B♭ F B♭ F B♭
I'm gon - na wait 'til the mid-night hour. I'm gon - na

Let's Stay Together

Words & Music by Al Green, Willie Mitchell & Al Jackson

♩ = 96
Gm9 Am7 Gm7 Am7 Gm9 Am7 Gm7 C7
F Dm9
I'm, I'm so in love with you. What-ev - er you
B♭ D♭6
want to do is al - right with me.
Am7 Gm7 F Em
'Cause you make me feel so brand

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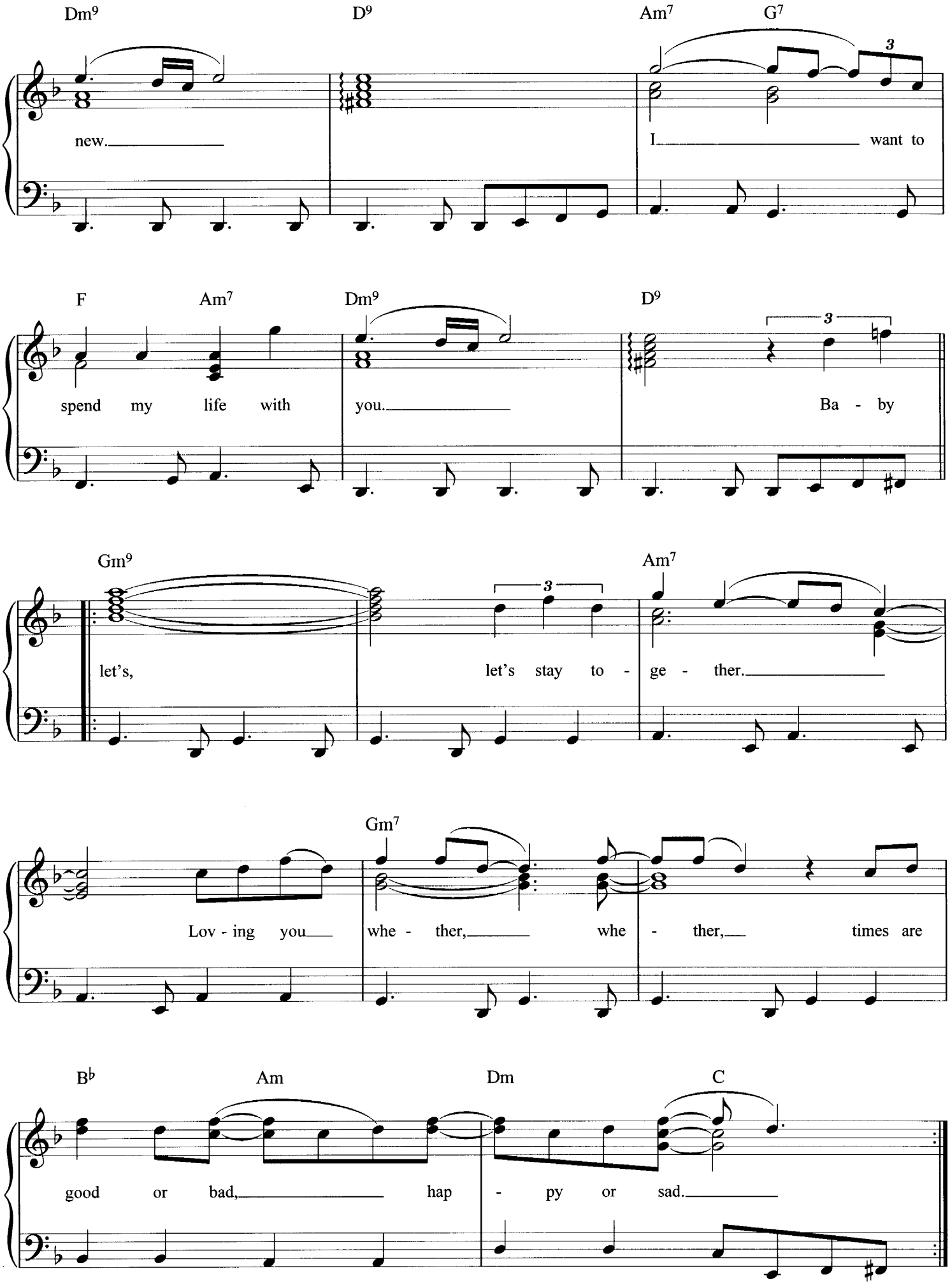
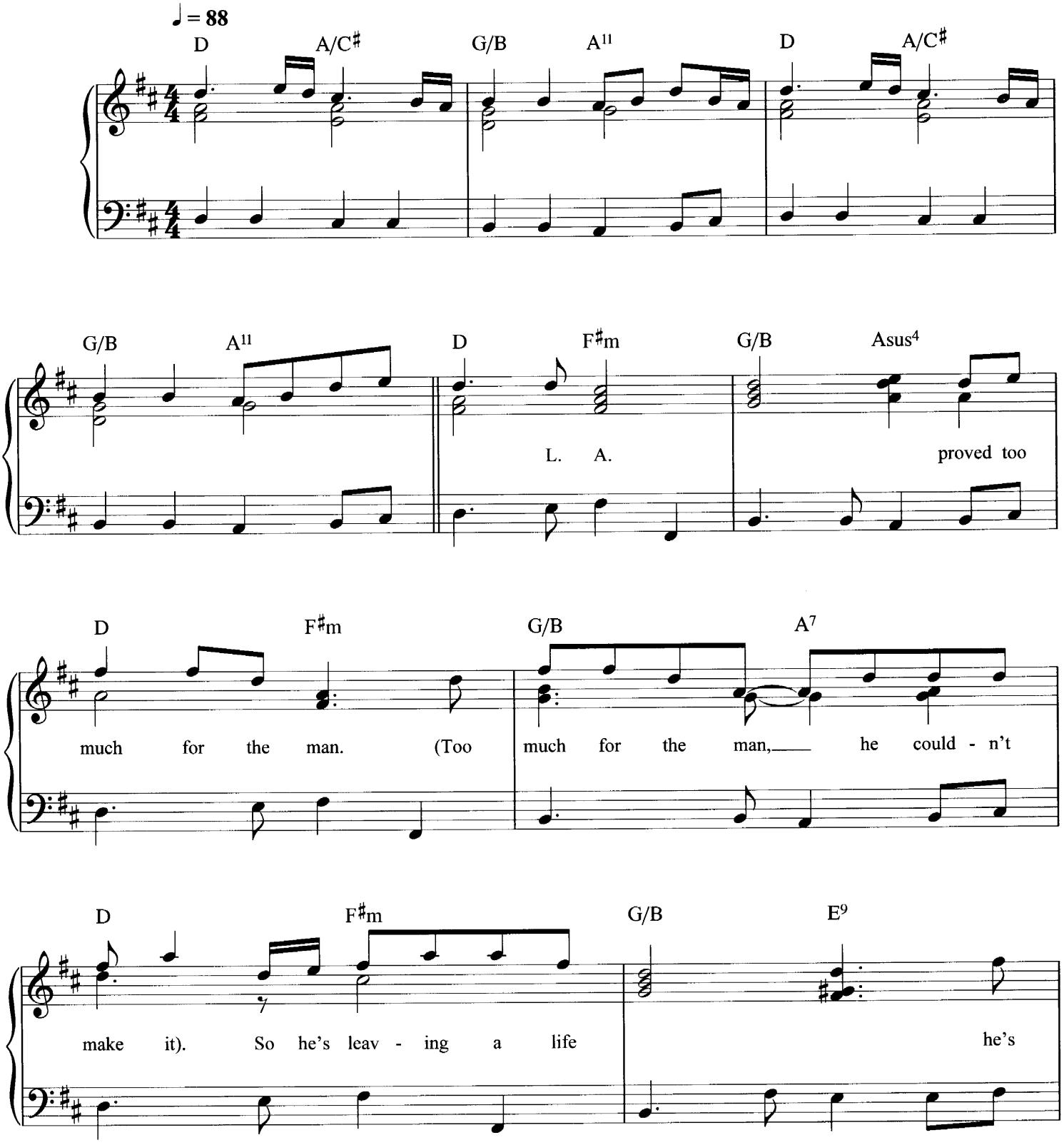

Dm9
D9
Am7
G7
new.
I want to
F
Am7
Dm9
D9
spend my life with
you.
Ba - by
Gm9
Am7
let's,
let's stay to - ge - ther.
Gm7
Lov - ing you
whe - ther,
whe - ther,
times are
B♭
Am
Dm
C
good or bad,
hap - py or sad.

Midnight Train To Georgia

Words & Music by Jim Weatherly

♩ = 88
D A/C♯ G/B A11 D A/C♯
G/B A11 D F♯m G/B Asus4
L. A. proved too
D F♯m G/B A7
much for the man. (Too much for the man,___ he could - n't
D F♯m G/B E9
make it). So he's leav - ing a life he's

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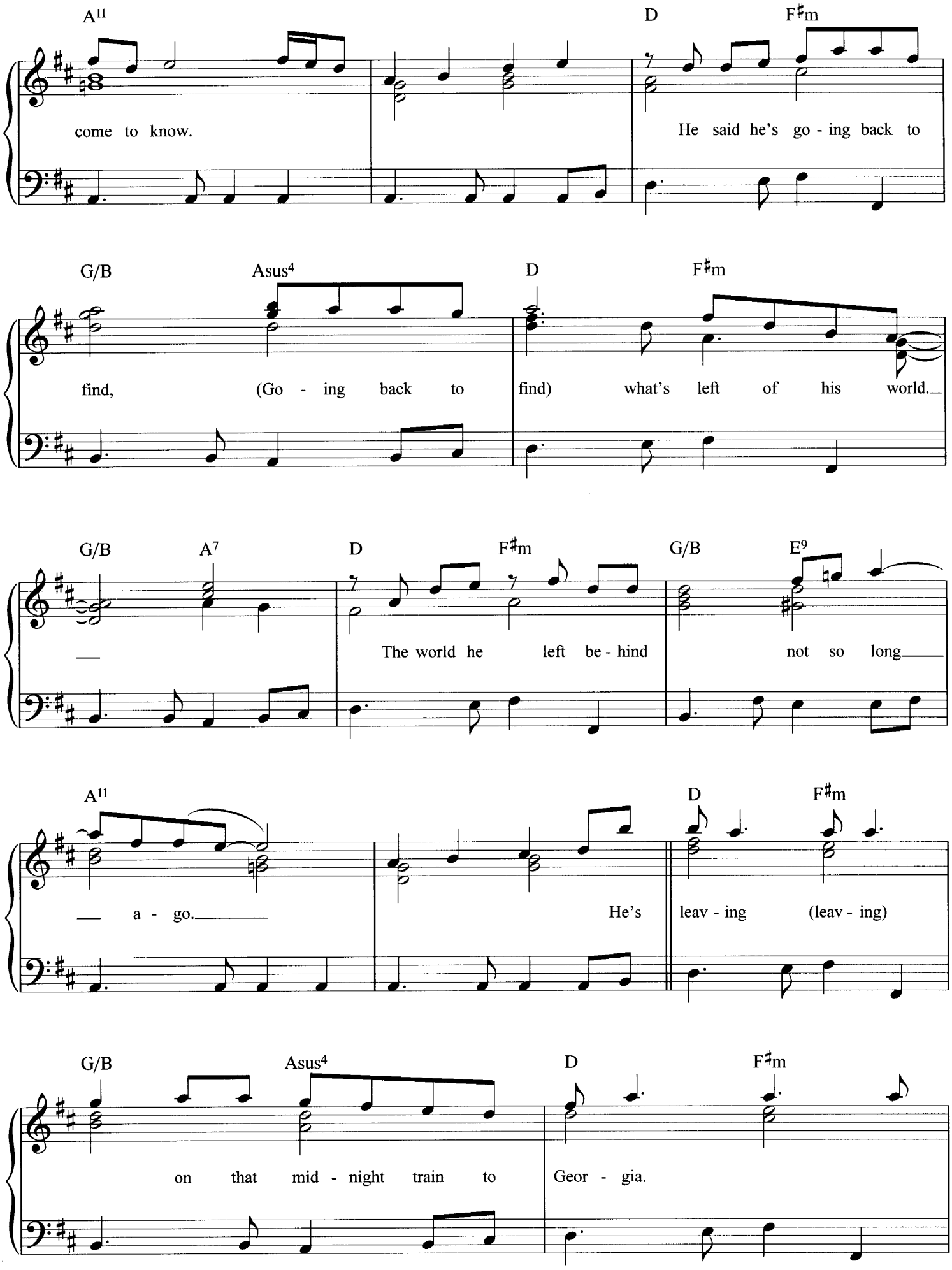
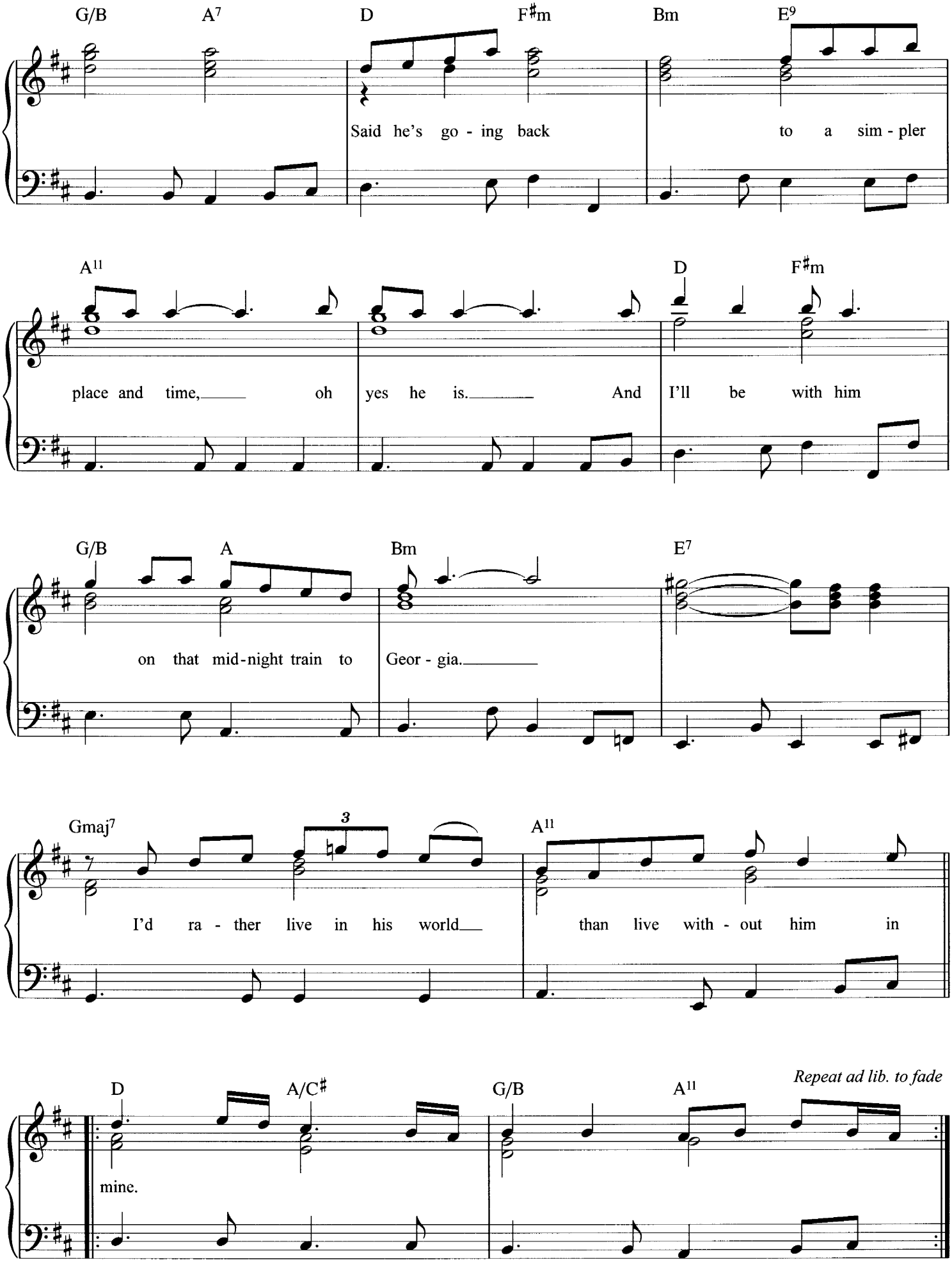
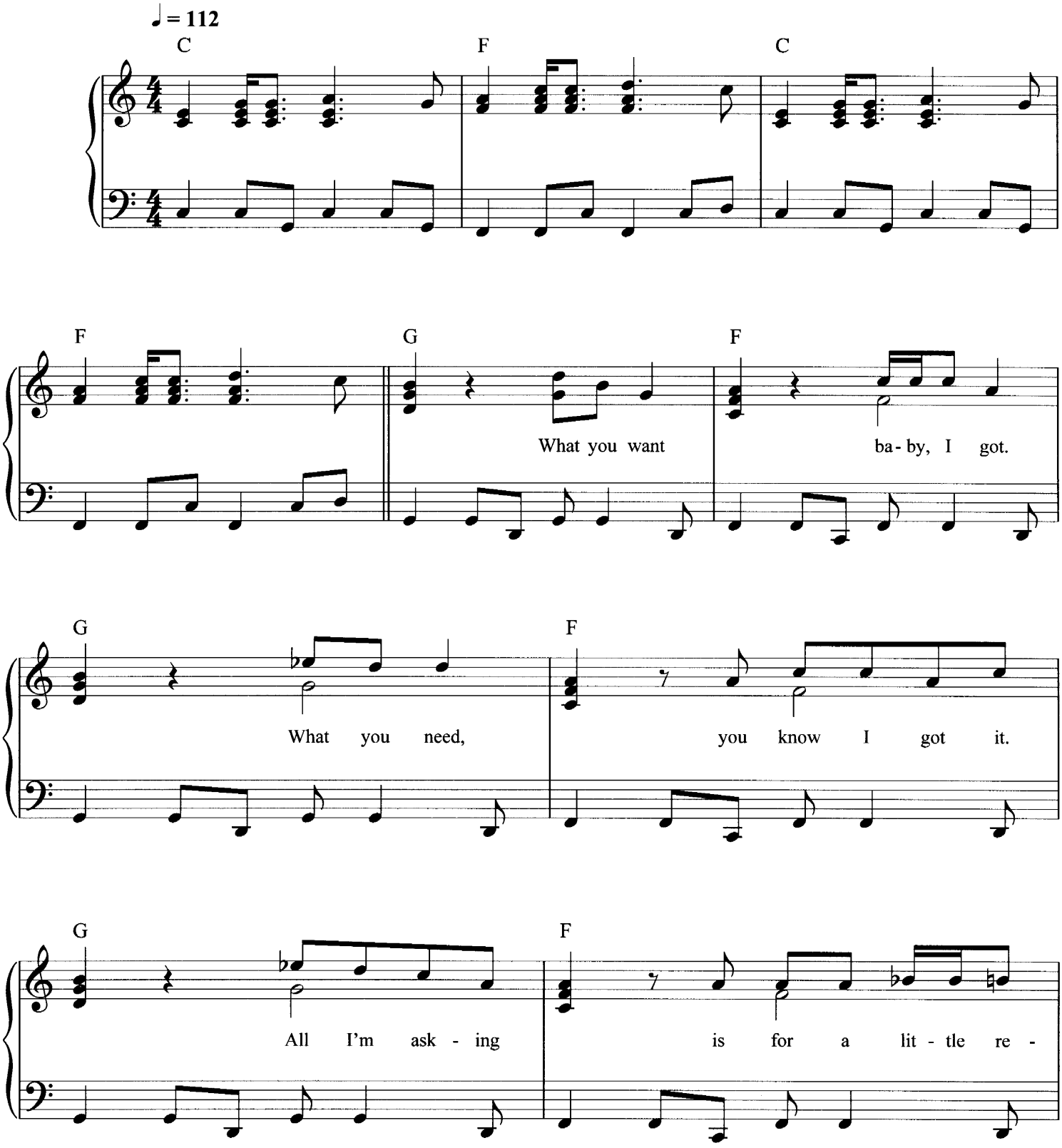

A11
D
F♯m
come to know.
He said he's go - ing back to
G/B
Asus4
D
F♯m
find,
(Go - ing back to
find)
what's left of his world.
G/B
A7
D
F♯m
G/B
E9
The world he
left be - hind
not so long
A11
D
F♯m
a - go.
He's
leav - ing
(leav - ing)
G/B
Asus4
D
F♯m
on that mid - night train to
Geor - gia.

G/B A7 D F♯m Bm E9
Said he's go - ing back to a sim - pler
A11 D F♯m
place and time, oh yes he is. And I'll be with him
G/B A Bm E7
on that mid-night train to Geor - gia.
Gmaj7 3 A11
I'd ra - ther live in his world than live with - out him in
D A/C♯ G/B A11
Repeat ad lib. to fade
mine.

Respect

Words & Music by Otis Redding

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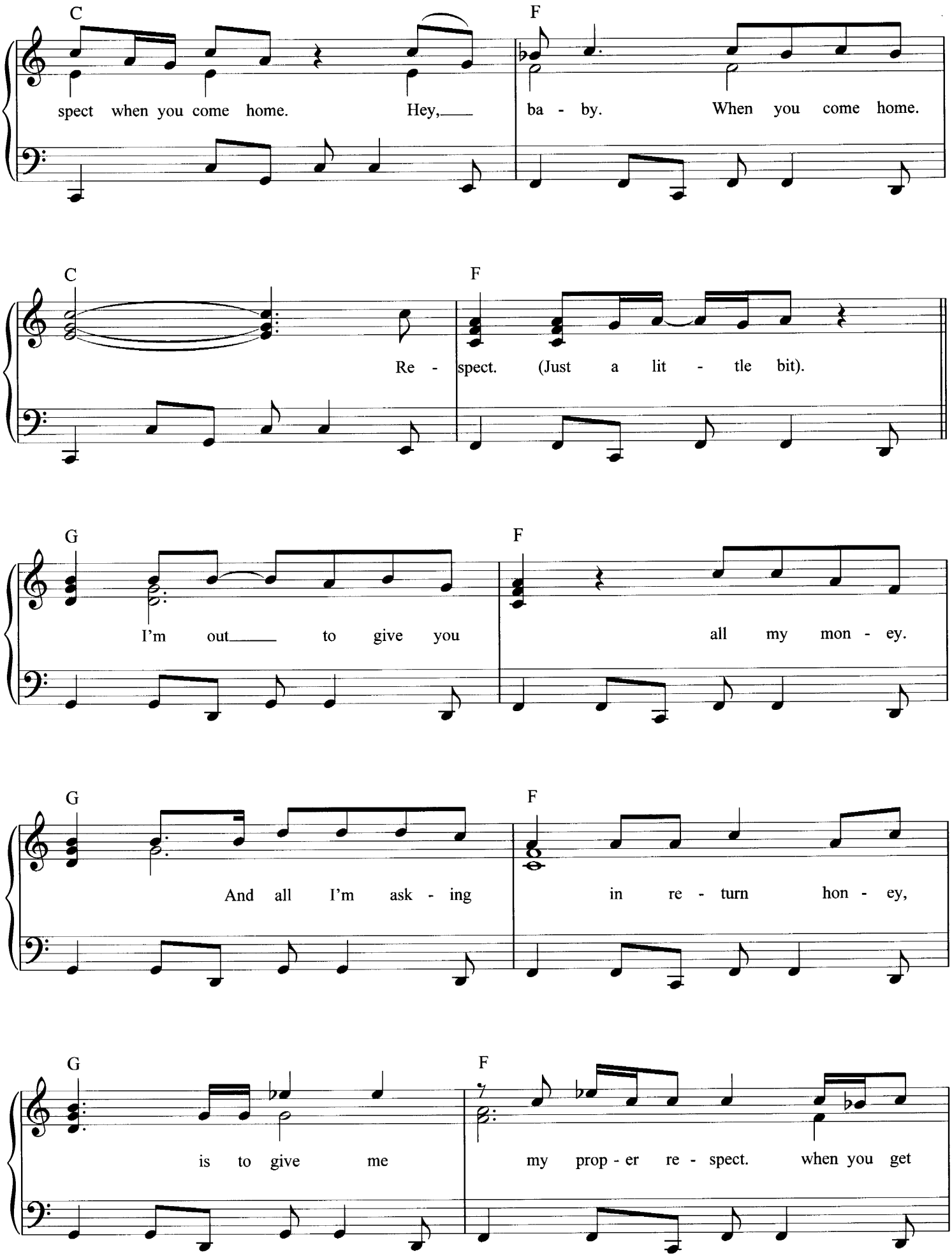
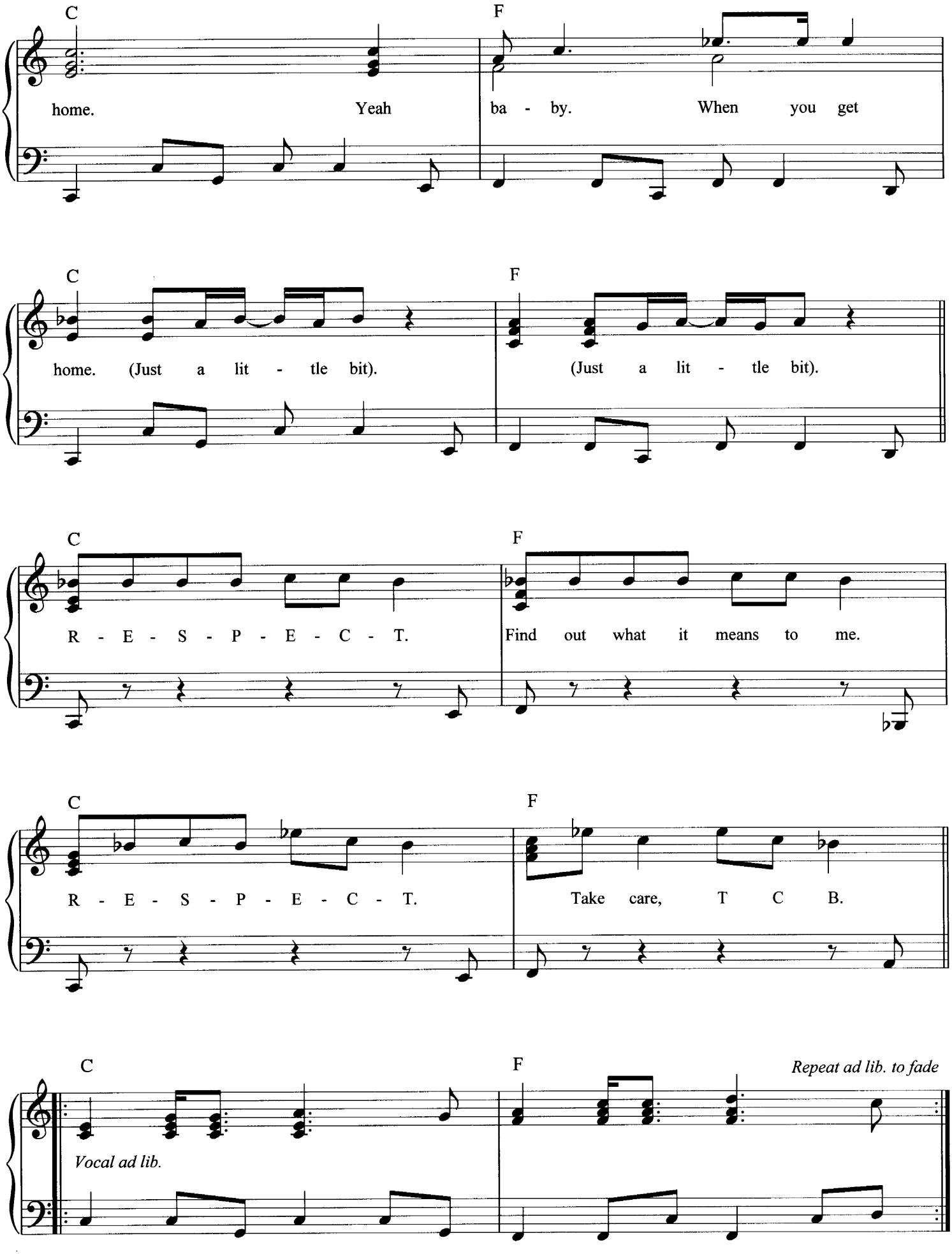
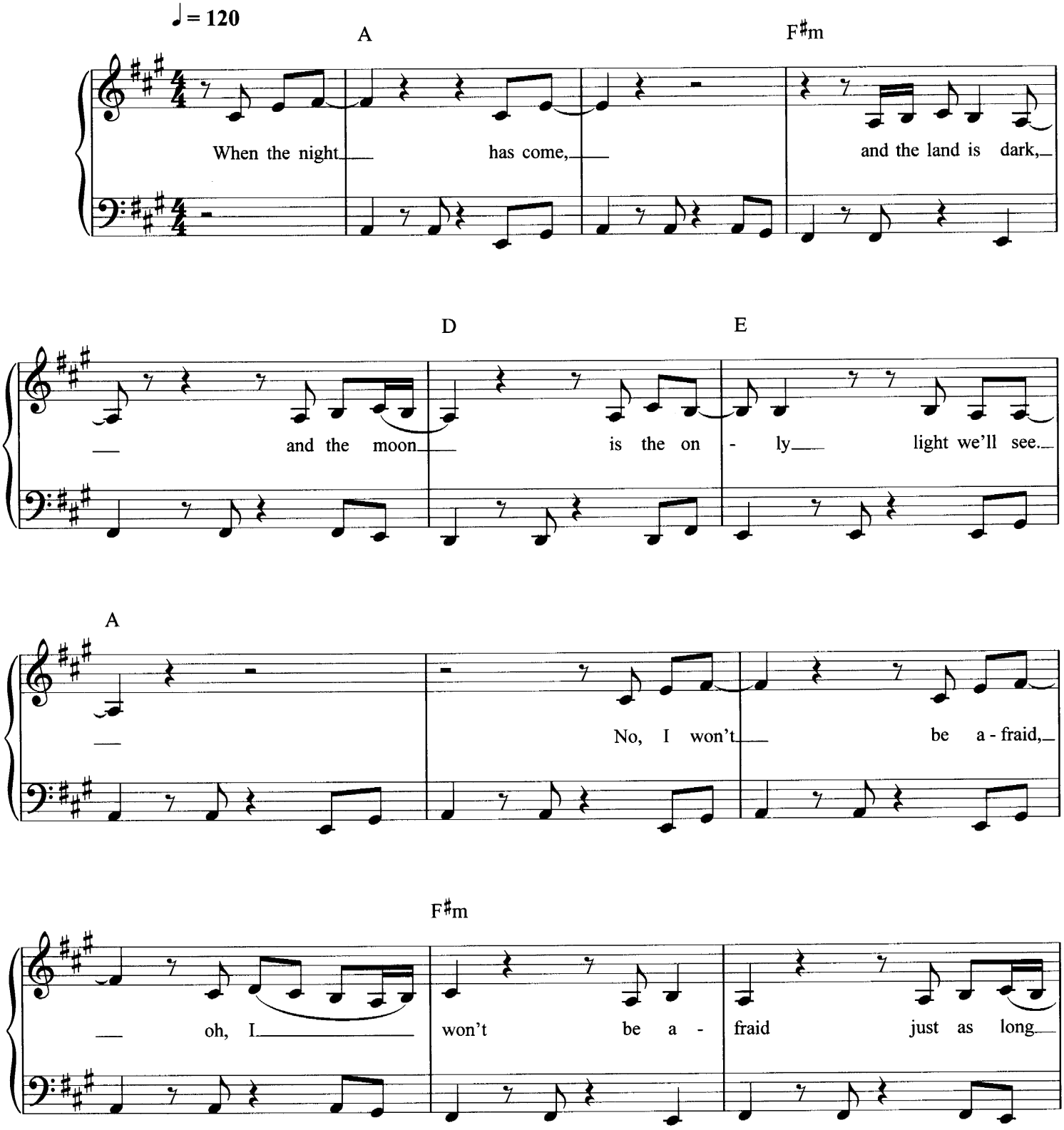

C
F
spect when you come home. Hey,
ba - by. When you come home.
C
F
Re - spect. (Just a lit - tle bit).
G
F
I'm out to give you
all my mon - ey.
G
F
And all I'm ask - ing
in re - turn hon - ey,
G
F
is to give me
my prop - er re - spect. when you get

C
F
home. Yeah
ba - by. When you get
C
F
home. (Just a lit - tle bit).
(Just a lit - tle bit).
C
F
R - E - S - P - E - C - T.
Find out what it means to me.
C
F
R - E - S - P - E - C - T.
Take care, T C B.
C
F
Repeat ad lib. to fade
Vocal ad lib.

Stand By Me

Words & Music by Ben E. King, Jerry Leiber & Mike Stoller

♩ = 120
A
F♯m
When the night has come, and the land is dark,
D
E
and the moon is the on - ly light we'll see.
A
No, I won't be a - fraid,
F♯m
oh, I won't be a - fraid just as long

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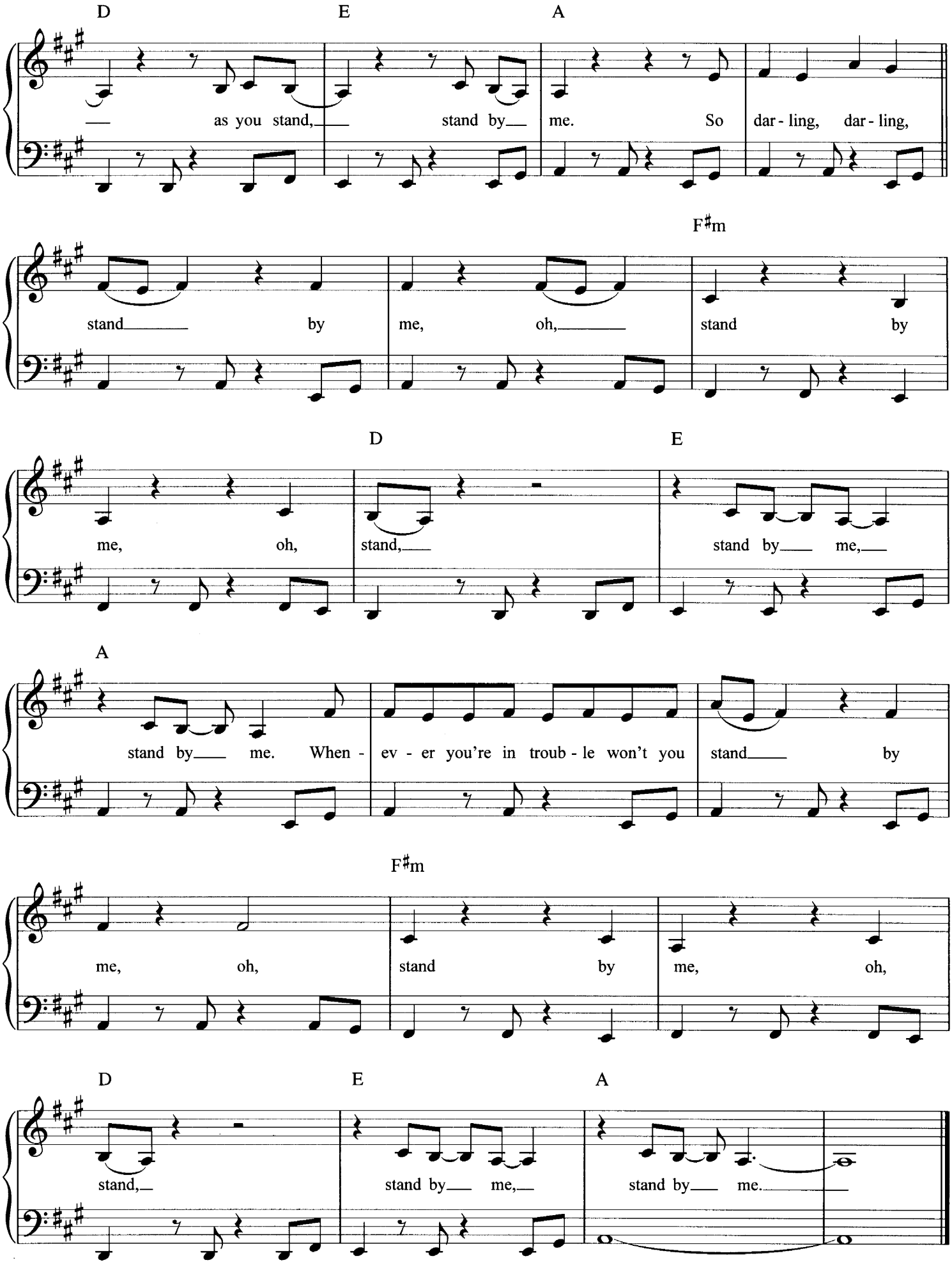
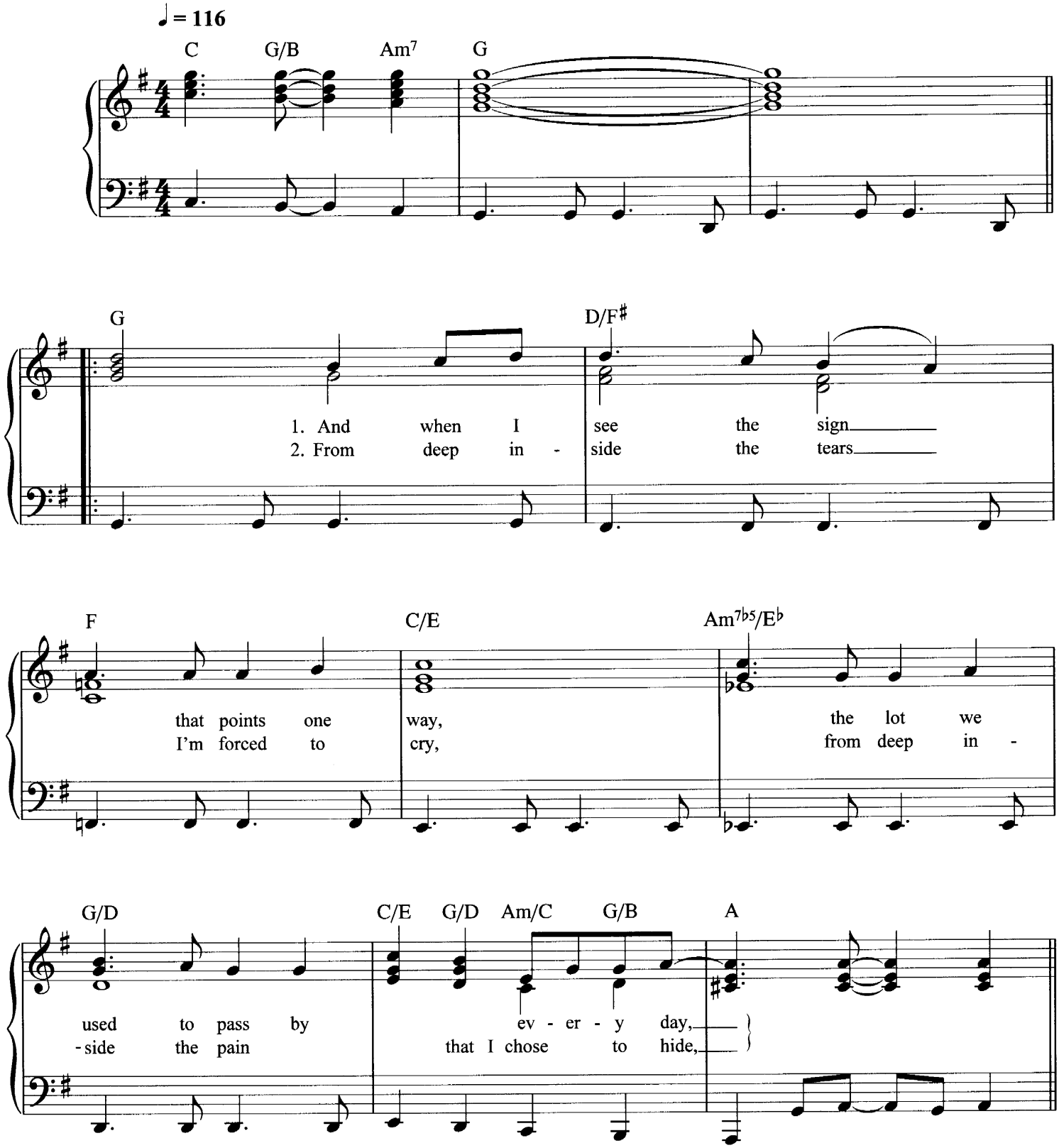

D
E
A
as you stand, stand by me. So dar - ling, dar - ling,
F♯m
stand by me, oh, stand by
D
E
me, oh, stand, stand by me,
A
stand by me. When - ev - er you're in troub - le won't you stand by
F♯m
me, oh, stand by me, oh,
D
E
A
stand, stand by me, stand by me.

Walk Away, Renee

Words & Music by Bob Calilli, Tony Sansome & Michael Lookofsky

♩ = 116
C G/B Am7 G
G D/F♯
1. And when I see the sign
2. From deep in - side the tears
F C/E Am7♭5/E♭
that points one way, the lot we
I'm forced to cry, from deep in -
G/D C/E G/D Am/C G/B A
used to pass by ev - er - y day,
-side the pain that I chose to hide,

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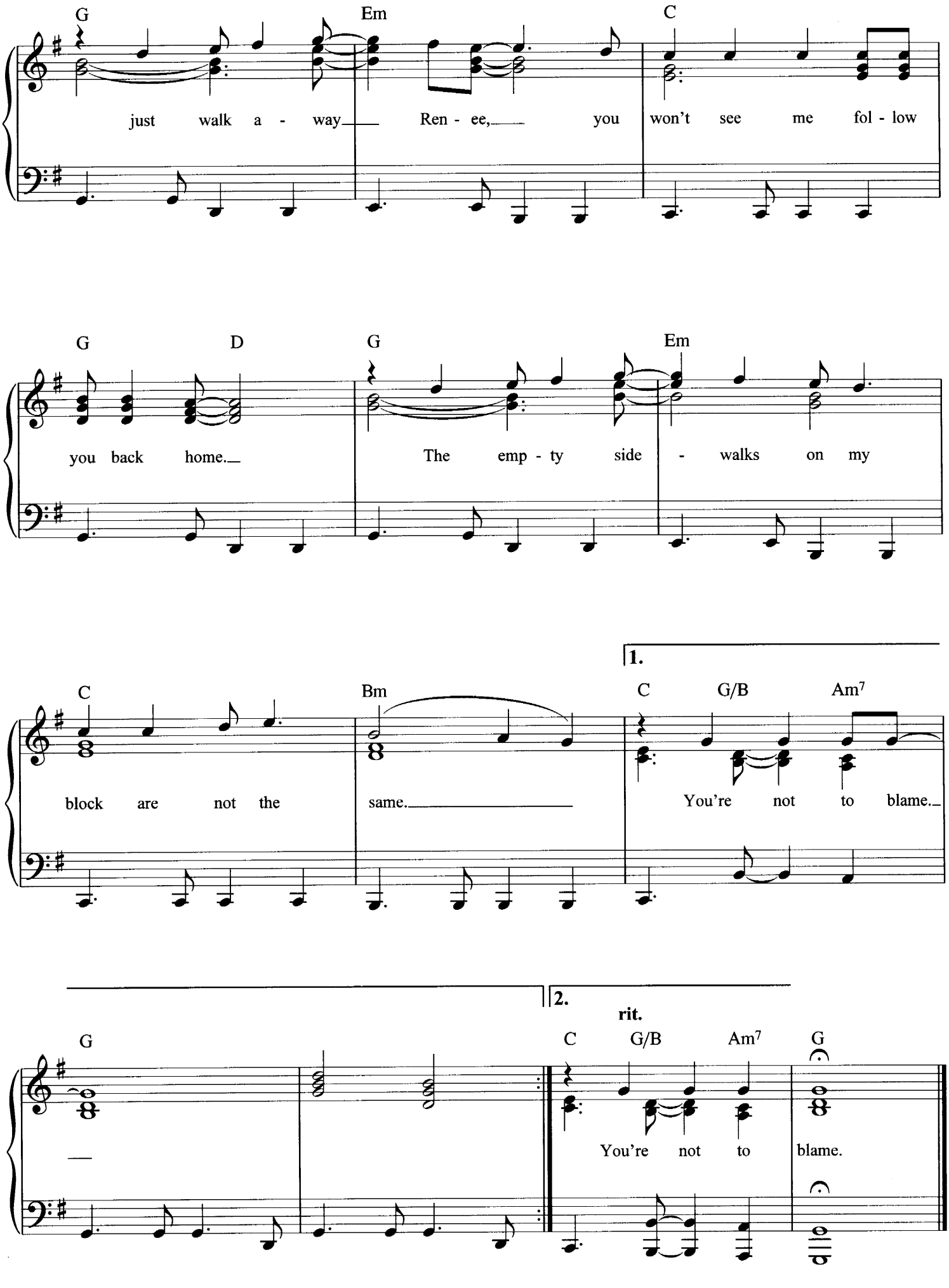
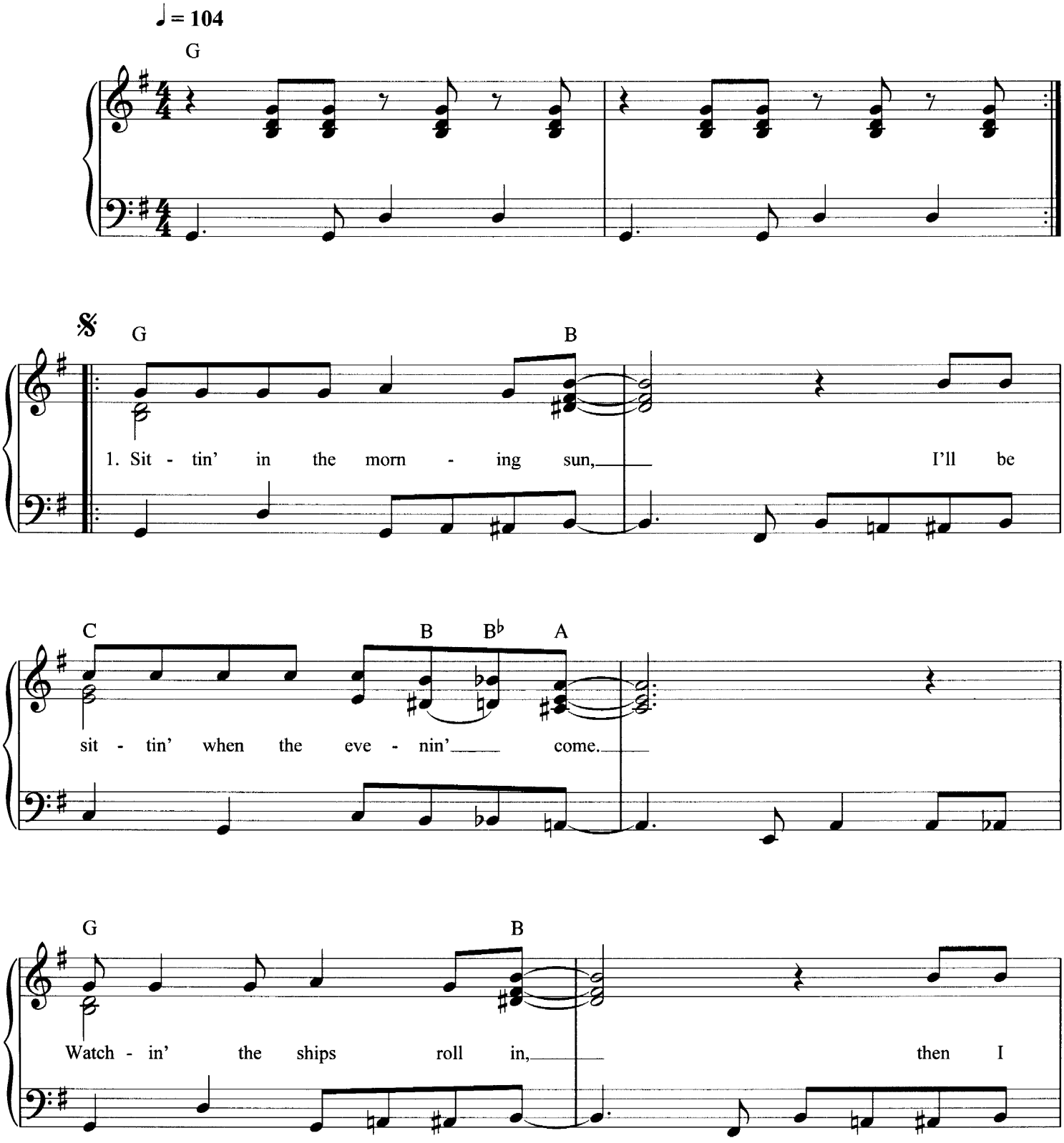

G
Em
C
just walk a - way Ren - ee, you won't see me fol - low
G
D
G
Em
you back home. The emp - ty side - walks on my
C
Bm
1.
C
G/B
Am7
block are not the same. You're not to blame.
2.
rit.
G
C
G/B
Am7
G
You're not to blame.

(Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay

Words & Music by Steve Cropper & Otis Redding

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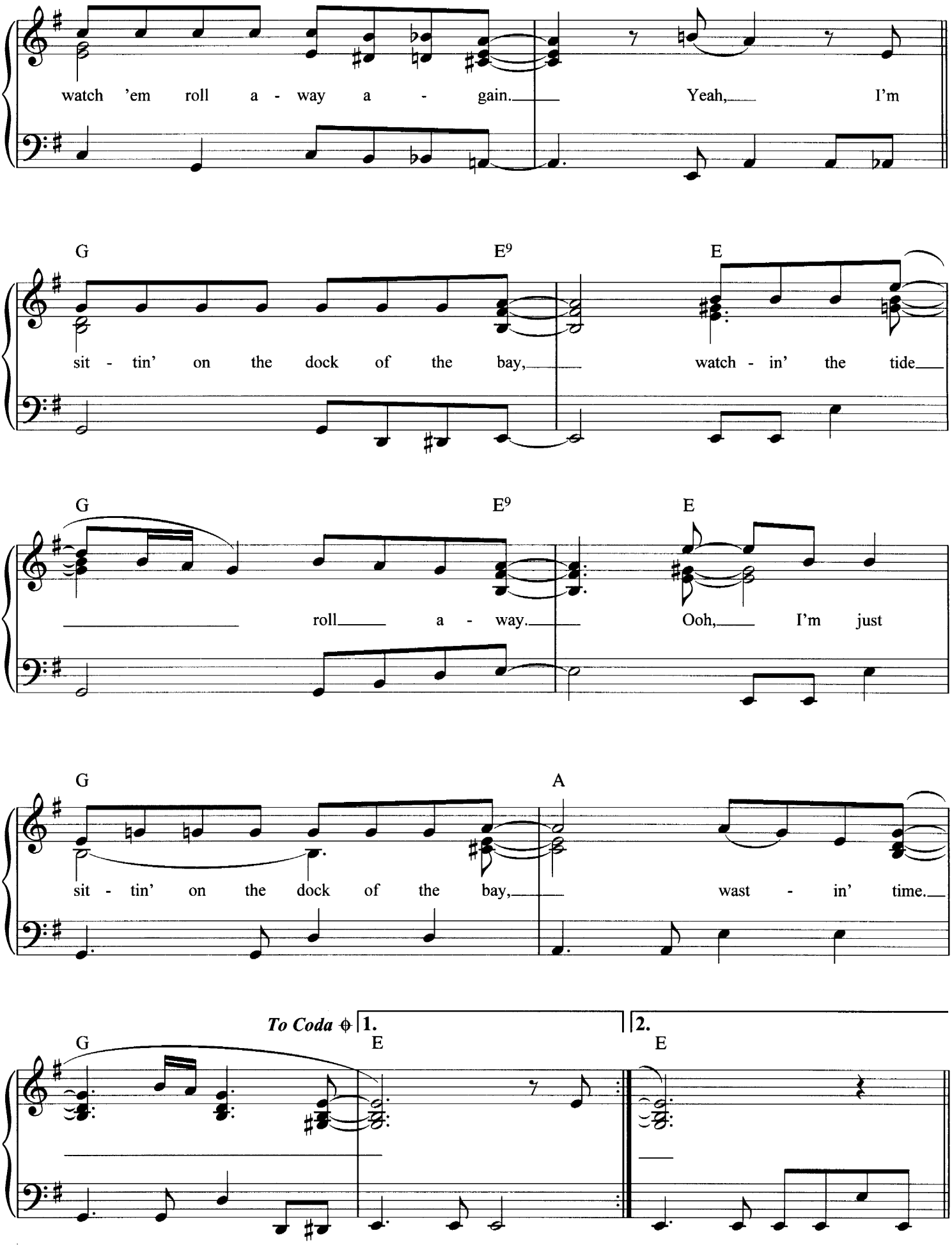
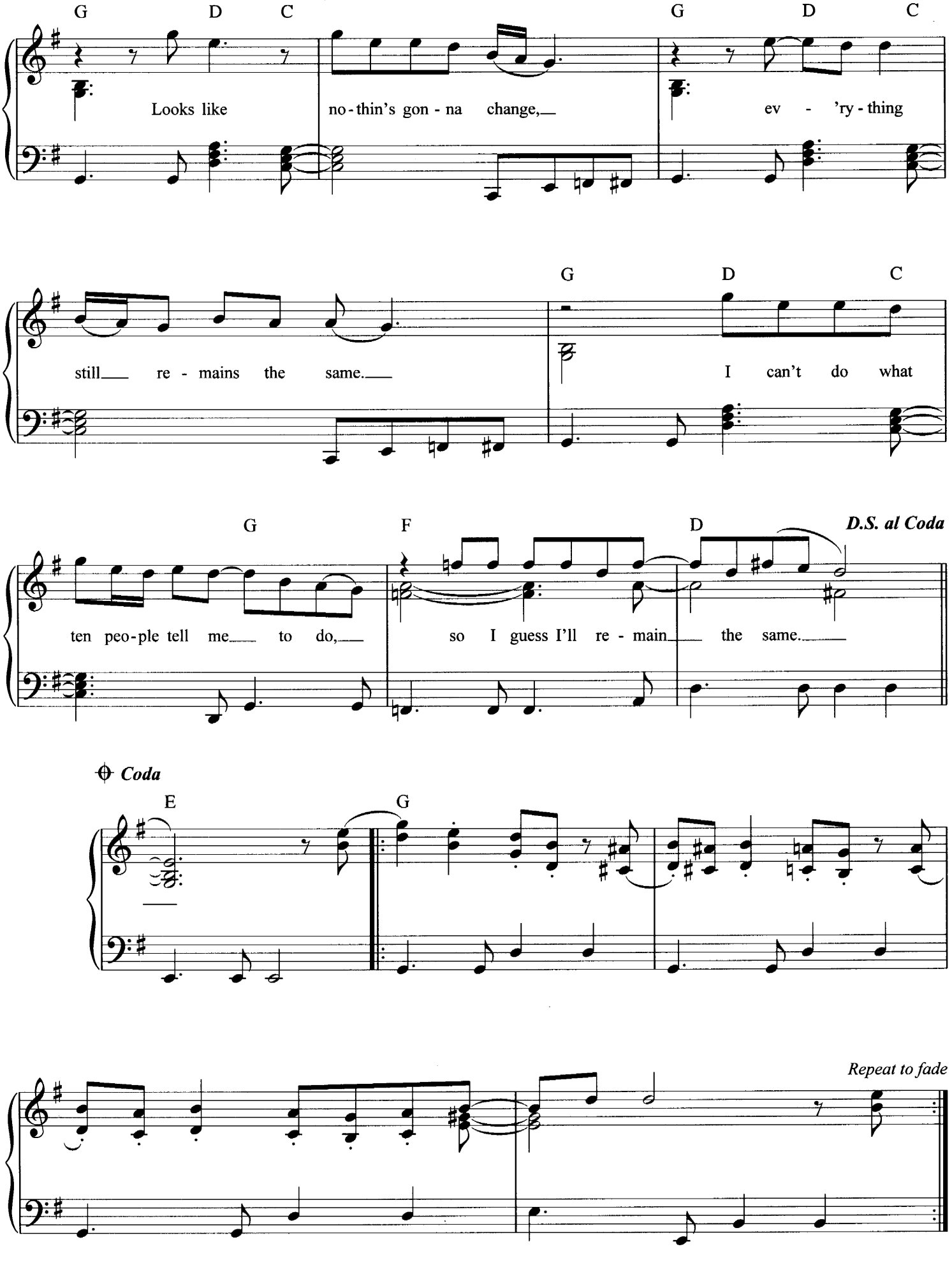

watch 'em roll a - way a - gain. Yeah, I'm
G E9 E
sit - tin' on the dock of the bay, watch - in' the tide
G E9 E
roll a - way. Ooh, I'm just
G A
sit - tin' on the dock of the bay, wast - in' time.
To Coda
1.
2.
G E E

G D C
Looks like no-thin's gon-na change,
G D C
ev - 'ry-thing
still re-mains the same.
G D C
I can't do what
G F D
D.S. al Coda
ten peo-ple tell me to do,
so I guess I'll re-main the same.
Coda
E G
Repeat to fade

123456789

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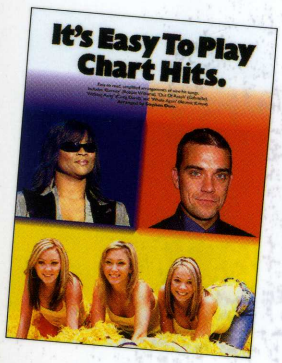

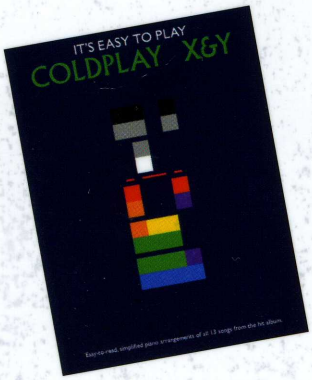

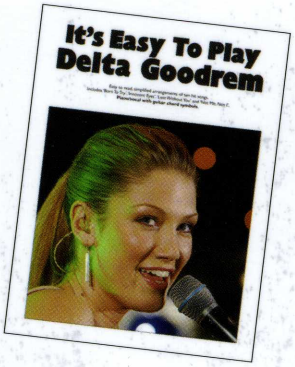

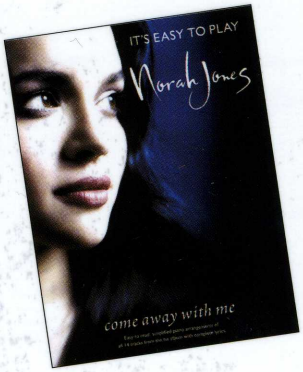

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